■ Elan / G1

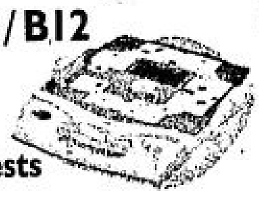
Update on the La Dolce Vita massacre

■ Business / B1

DOF bucks House version of tax amnesty

■ Science / B12

Surviving sudden cardiac arrests



■ Metro / A23

No rally 'round tattered flags

■ Saturday Special / A2-3

Basil and Rico J. in unique joint concert

Young editor fights for cell phone, loses life instead

By Nancy C. Carvajal

ANOTHER bright young life was snuffed out because of a cell phone.

Jose Luis Villanueva, 29, assistant business editor of Today newspaper, was stabbed to death because he refused to give his cell phone to holdup men yesterday morning.

YOUNG/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Erap mansion: No place for photos of 'other women'

By Armand N. Nocum

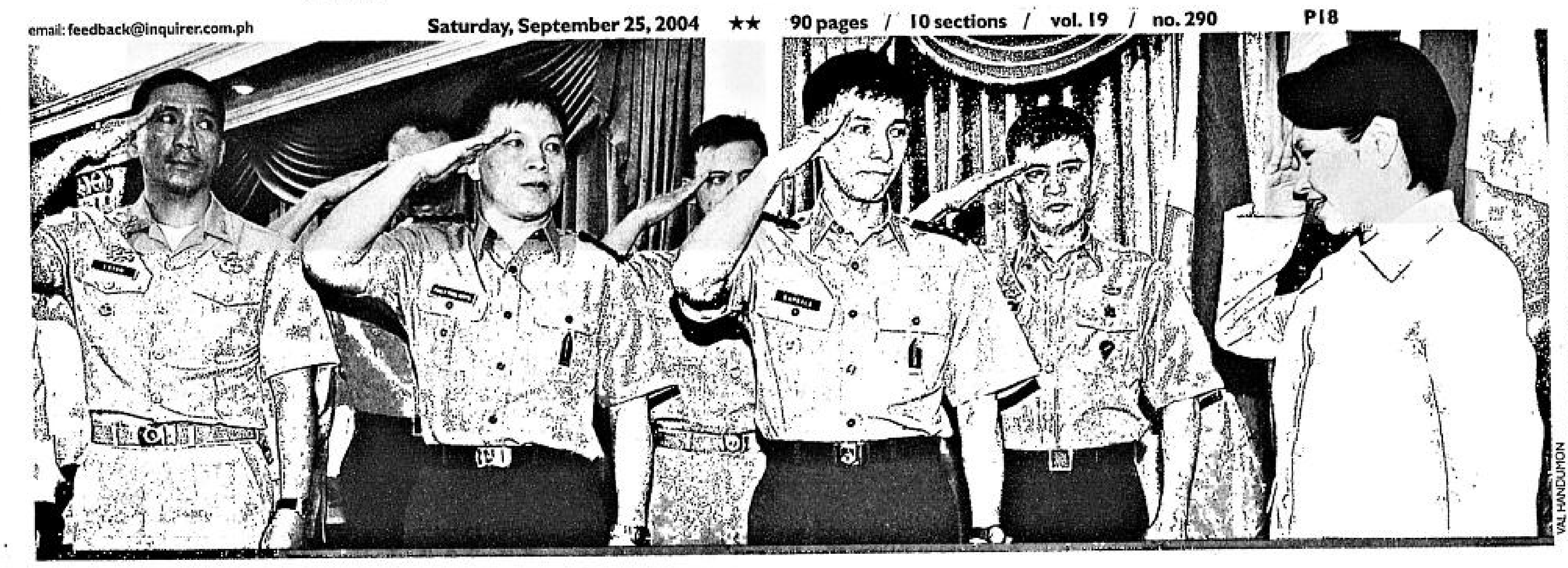
HARA NG...
WALANG
BOLD STARS!

SORRY, there will be no love chain in the Erap museum.

Fans of ousted President Estrada should not expect to find photos of

ERAP/ A21

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Saturday, September 25, 2004 ★★ 90 pages / 10 sections / vol. 19 / no. 290 P18 website: www.inq7.net



SALUTE TO THE CHIEF: President Macapagal-Arroyo returns the salute of six young officers of the rebellious Magdalo group following their apology for last year's Oakwood mutiny at Camp Aguinaldo. The officers are (front row, from left) Lt. James Layug, Capt. Milo Maestrecampo, Capt. Gerardo Gambala, (second row, from left) Capt. Gary Alejano, Lt. Sg. Antonio Trillanes and Capt. Nicanor Faeldon.

VAL HANDUMON

Magdalo boys apologize

LIEUTENANT TRILLANES with suspected "kuya," former Sen. Gregorio Honasan: A history of coup attempts. PDI PHOTO

TIMELINE

History of coups

July 1986

A group of 490 fully armed military men and some 5,000 Ferdinand Marcos loyalists occupy the Manila Hotel. Marcos' vice presidential running mate Arturo Tolentino takes his "oath of office" as "acting President."

November 1986

Malacañang discovers and thwarts a coup plot codenamed "God Save the Queen."

January 27-29, 1987

A group of Marcos loyalists occupy the GMA Network for three days, but put down their arms after a long series of negotiations.

March 18, 1987

A time bomb allegedly intended for President Aquino during the PMA Cadets Graduation ceremony prematurely explodes at the ceremonial grandstand at PMA.

April 18, 1987

About 56 mutineers seize the Headquarters Philippine Army building on a Black Saturday, but later surrender on realizing they are outnumbered and outgunned. One person dies in the incident and seven are wounded.

July 1987

A plot to take over Manila International Airport is uncovered before it can be launched.

August 28, 1987

A coup attempt involving some 2,160

HISTORY/ A8

Apology: Compromise or playing with fire?

TO SOME, it is a welcome compromise that could give the country's hard-pressed economy a breathing space. To others, it may be playing with fire.

These were the mixed reactions of risks analysts, business executives, academics and senators to the decision by ringleaders of last year's failed Oakwood mutiny to apologize for their failed rebellion, and to President Macapagal-Arroyo's acceptance of their apology.

Ms Arroyo said the trial of the mutiny leaders would proceed but promised leniency to their followers.

- Tom Green, executive director of Pacific Strategies and Assessments, an American-owned political risk consultancy group: "From one perspective, you see two sides coming together. On the side of the mutineers, they seem to be recognizing that problems are difficult and rash actions create more problems.

"On the side of the administration, there seems to be a desire to go ahead with justice. But we have to see how it plays out, what kind of punishment would be carried out, whether there will be actions that will discourage something like this in the future. The important thing is to make sure that enough justice is done. The actions will truly speak louder than the pronouncements."

Green added: "But right now, people are probably more concerned with the regulatory environment and the financial situation because in reality, a coup can interrupt your operations for hours or days, but a bad regulatory environment and financial problems can push you out of business."

- Ret. Navy Commodore Rex Robles, a former leader of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), now head of the RCR risk management consultancy gorup: "This is a graceful exit for both. Now, the government has one major problem less to worry about because the

APOLOGY/ A8

Change of heart is start of healing–GMA

REBEL SOLDIER stands in front of the Oakwood Premiere as mutiny leaders appear on television (right) to air their gripes. PDI PHOTO

By Alcuin Papa

IN A DRAMATIC turnaround, they saluted her, called her "our Commander in Chief," and apologized for what they had done.

One year, one month and 29 days after seizing the Oakwood Premier Hotel in Makati, six military officers who led the failed mutiny by more than 300 elite soldiers told President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday that they had been so naive and so wrong.

Ms Arroyo said she was accepting the apology that the rebel officers "so humbly made" and declared that their change of heart marked the start of a national healing.

But she also said that court-martial proceedings against them would be pursued.

The six officers who expressed contrition for their actions during a meeting with Ms Arroyo at the Department of National Defense building at Camp Aguinaldo were: Army Captains Gerardo Gambala and Milo Maestrecampo, Marine Captains Nicanor Faeldon and Gary Alejano and Navy Lieutenants Senior Grade James Layug and Antonio Trillanes IV.

It was the first time they had met Ms Arroyo since their one-day uprising.

"Last 27 July 2003, the six of us, together with more than 300 other AFP officers and enlisted personnel, went to Oakwood Hotel to vent out our grievances. This we did in our honest, though naive desire for change," a statement read by Gambala at the meeting said.

"However, as succeeding events have shown, the Filipino people did not agree with our means of expression. As a result, we humbly faced the consequences of our actions and moved on."

The statements were signed by the six officers.

A separate statement released by defense officials and signed by Gambala, Maestrecampo and 28 other mutineers from the Philippine Army said: "Humbly and with contrite hearts, we entreat the AFP hierarchy to give us another chance in becoming an active participant again in nation-building by being who we truly are—soldiers of AFP and the Filipino people."

Faeldon, Alejano, Layug and Trillanes were not among the signatories of the second statement. Defense officials could not immediately explain why the rebel group issued two separate statements.

In the first statement signed by the six officers, they said that during their 14 months of incarceration, they realized that the country was facing serious problems and that there were no shortcuts to solving them.

"On the contrary, the road to peace and progress is a long and difficult journey where every Filipino has the responsibility of sharing the burden," they said.

MAGDALO BOYS/ A8

THE INSIDE STORY

In the end, money woes softened the tough boys

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Fe Zamora

IN THE END, the financial factor got the upper hand, and the lost income and aborted careers prompted the leaders of the Magdalo mutiny to "soften up."

"They (the core group) feel responsible for their supporters," a Malacañang official said yesterday. "One year without income is certainly a big problem. If they do not apologize, what will happen to them and their families?"

The official, who asked not to be named, disclosed that the mutiny leaders also wanted to be reinstated in the military—a possibility, he said, because they could be pardoned after being sentenced by the court martial.

"The proceedings can be expedited and a recommendation can be made in consideration for a presidential pardon," the official said. He said the time served by the mutineers in detention could be considered time served for their offense.

A "convergence of interests" motivated the mutiny leaders to take the first

IN THE END/ A8

Gordon clears FVR in Smokey Mountain case

By Michael Lim Ubac and Christine O. Avendano

THIS early, the co-chair of the joint investigation of the P3.1-billion Smokey Mountain reclamation project appears convinced that ex-President Fidel Ramos has no criminal liability in the case.

"I think former President Ramos acquitted himself rather well," Sen. Richard Gordon said at a press conference, referring to Ramos' testimony on Thursday before the blue ribbon committee and the committee on government corporations and public enterprises, chaired by Sen. Joker Arroyo and himself, respectively.

Arroyo declined to comment on whether Ramos had indeed cleared himself of the accusation that he had signed the "most lopsided contract in Philippine history."

And Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, who had sought the inquiry into the "unconstitutional" nature of the contract signed in 1993 by the Ramos administration and private developer R-II Builders, said the ex-President had "miserably" failed to justify the reclamation project in Tondo, Manila.

Santiago said the use of presidential powers to clothe the project with a semblance of legality did not justify the illegal deal forged between the National Housing Authority (NHA) and R-II Builders.

Two senators also took exception to Ramos' defense that his actions on the project resulted from his having listened to his advisers at that time, as well as his administration's pursuit of the line taken by then former President Corazon Aquino in developing Smokey Mountain.

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said Aquino should not be blamed for the project because its implementation was done during the Ramos administration.

"The contract of Cory [Aquino] only included leveling the symbol of poverty and giving housing projects in the area, but the other two components—reclamation and the building of barges for the transport of garbage—were perfected under the administration of Ramos," Bia-

GORDON/ A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/09/25/04

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	**Roxas**	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	**Cebu**	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	**Tacloban**	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	**Gen. Santos**	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	**Zamboanga**	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	**Cagayan de Oro**	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	**Davao**	Cloudy with Rains

PNP imposes gun ban in Abra

By Artha Kira Paredes
and Christian V. Esguerra

BANGUED, Abra—In a bid to stop the killings perpetrated by private armed groups that have given this province a black eye, Philippine National Police Chief Edgardo Aglipay yesterday imposed a ban on the carrying of guns on all residents of Abra, particularly politicians and their civilian bodyguards.

"All permits to carry firearms outside of residence issued to Abra residents are hereby canceled effective today (Sept. 24). All PNP forces in the area are ordered to arrest violators," Aglipay said during a visit to the violence-marred province yesterday.

Aglipay said there was an "unabated disrespect for [the] law by some powerful people in Abra," and warned local politicians—from the governor down to barangay captains—against maintaining partisan armed groups (PAGs), seen as the main instruments of violence in the region for decades.

"We will not budge an inch in enforcing the law in Abra," he said in a meeting with Abra's politicians.

The PNP move to dismantle private armies in Abra follows a report that appeared in the INQUIRER earlier this month about how private armies have held sway in the Cordillera province. Since the 1960s, local politicians have been resorting to hiring these partisan armed groups to eliminate rivals and to seize or hold on to political power.

The PNP crackdown came as complaints have grown that Abra's police force has been left helpless in the face of powerful politicians and their private armies.

Expecting resistance from the province's politicians and their private armies, Aglipay deployed 95 members of the PNP's elite Special Action Force (SAF) to help maintain order in the province. SAF men will take over from provincial policemen the job of securing politicians.

Aglipay warned police officers caught serving as bodyguards of politicians that they would be arrested.

The local police's ineffectiveness has been traced to their "familiarity" with their civilian bosses.

Task Force Abra was also ordered to crack down on vehicles without license plates or with bogus plate numbers.

The task force, headed by Caraga police director Rowland Albano, was also instructed to arrest suspicious-looking riders for "character verification."

Aglipay gave the province's warlords until yesterday to surrender their firearms as he said the Task Force Abra would start today its "serious job" of dismantling Abra's private armies.

He said he was giving the task force until Christmas to solve the peace and order problem in the province.

Aglipay said that if the private armed groups are not dismantled and the hired goons—who are not from the province—are not sent back to where they belonged, "one day all would end up in the cemetery."

"It seems that Abra is in crisis ... no one can solve your problems except yourselves," he told the politicians in a mixture of English and Filipino.

. But the problem with private armies is not exclusive to Abra.

A PNP report released weeks before the elections in May said there were 119 PAGs in all regions, except Metro Manila.

The number was only slightly lower than the 125 groups in the list that the PNP released last March.

Police authorities claim to have already "dismantled" 70 groups, "neutralized" 20 others, including 163 individuals since July 2003.

One such group based in Mindanao has as many as 200 members and 120 high-powered firearms.

The report also referred to an influential Abra mayor who allegedly maintained an 11-man private army.

It also told of a governor of a prosperous province south of Metro Manila who allegedly had a private army composed mostly of former and incumbent barangay officials.

They worked under the guise of being part of the provincial government's official security unit.

The governor's army was allegedly just one of at least four private armed groups prowling the province.

During the open forum, Mayor Marc Ysrael Bernos of La Paz town noted the special security circumstances of Abra. He said two police escorts for each town mayor were not enough as the province's politicians were always under threat.

Aglipay said mayors found not to be holding office in their respective towns should be reported and recommended for suspension.

Under the Local Government Code, local chief executives are required to spend at least 80 percent of their time in their respective towns.

Gov. Vicente Valera said he was happy that the issue of private armies was being addressed.

He said Abra was "a happy family no more" because of the presence of the private armed groups.

"I have not ordered the killing of anyone, I have never ordered anyone to terrorize someone else ... my family is known for that, my family is not a family of violent people. I don't even have a bodyguard," Valera said.

Malaysian monitors say peace is at hand

COTABATO CITY—A final peace agreement between the government and Muslim separatists is at hand, with both parties closely observing a ceasefire agreement, Malaysian monitors said yesterday.

The nine-member Malaysian monitoring team arrived in Cotabato City, seat of a Muslim autonomous region that remains mired in poverty.

Ranking members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which has been waging a separatist rebellion since 1978, also live in heavily secured homes tucked in nearby hinterlands.

"Peace is near. All it takes is will power from both sides of the conflict," Brig. Gen. Mohd Bin Sulong told AFP here.

Sulong is the head of the Malaysian delegation, which is laying the ground work for a larger mission set to arrive in October.

The observers are to monitor the implementation of a ceasefire signed in 2002 and could intervene to prevent conflicts from escalating.

"The ceasefire mechanism is running very smoothly," said Lt. Col. Abdul Rahman Alavi, who will be heading the secretariat here in Cotabato.

Peace talks are likely to resume in October in Malaysia, a member of the Organization of Islamic Conference which is acting as a third-party mediator said. *AFP*

11 artworks missing, Garcia admits

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau,
Norman Bordadora
and Cynthia D. Balana

CEBU CITY—Government Service Insurance System president and general manager Winston Garcia yesterday admitted that 11 artworks, not 25 as earlier alleged, are indeed missing from the art collection of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) but said these had disappeared long before he assumed office in 2001.

Garcia said he discovered the loss of the 11 artworks valued at P1.4 million after he ordered an inventory of all items in GSIS art collection in 2002, a year after he joined GSIS.

Iloilo Rep. Rolex Suplico earlier alleged that 25 artworks at GSIS valued at P262 million were missing based on the December 2003 report of the Commission on Audit.

"This is another incident when Representative Suplico has become a victim of *kuryente* (bum steer)," Garcia said yesterday.

In fact, Garcia claimed, they were the ones who notified the COA about the missing items.

To prove there are no missing artworks since Garcia took over in 2001, a high ranking GSIS official yesterday invited Suplico and other members of Congress to view the paintings and other artworks at the GSIS museum.

Omelita Tiangco, GSIS senior vice president for finance, said all GSIS artworks since 2001 are intact and could readily be presented.

Tiangco also confirmed that 11 paintings are indeed missing but said these were lost during the turnover of the GSIS helm from Cesar Sarino to Federico Pascual in 1998.

In a statement, Tiangco said that since 1998, no painting or artwork owned by the GSIS has been lost or declared missing.

According to Garcia, the 11 artworks were acquired by GSIS in the 1980s during the stint of Roman Cruz.

Eric Zerrudo, GSIS cultural facilities manager, said that Juan Luna's Parisian Life and two murals by Fernando Amorsolo, are in the GSIS museum.

Zerrudo defended GSIS purchase of these paintings and artworks.

"It is standard practice for pension funds and trusts to purchase valuable artworks and paintings as a form of investment. As the value of these artworks improve over time, so do the assets of these funds and other public and private corporations," Zerrudo said.

Garcia said that after the 2002 inventory of all GSIS assets, they also discovered that the pension fund owned several properties.

Among these were a 60-hectare property of GSIS near the international container port in Manila valued at about P5 billion and another 8,000 abandoned housing units.

"We did not know that we have these properties until we conducted the inventory. We had even titled the 60-hectare property," Garcia said.

Garcia also shrugged off allegations that he has fiscally mismanaged the GSIS funds and dared Suplico to file a case against him before the Office of the Ombudsman.

He said he would lodge a complaint before the House ethics committee against four congressmen who sought a congressional investigation into his alleged unliquidated cash advances and misuse of government pension funds.

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Education execs defend textbook, assails accuser

By Dona Pazzibugan

EDUCATION officials yesterday would not admit to the possibility that one of their history textbooks recommended for high school use may contain some errors.

But they were quick to impute ill motive to Antonio Calipjo Go, the Marian School academic supervisor who took out a newspaper advertisement to point out the errors he found in the 316-page textbook.

Go said he found 431 factual and grammatical errors in "Asya: Noon, Ngayon at sa Hinaharap," a government-approved history textbook.

Even though the book had been approved for use before his watch, Education Secretary Florencio Abad defended the textbook's integrity.

"It's hard to make a decision on something that has weak factual basis," Abad said of Go's ad.

He echoed the claims of the authors, the publisher and the DepEd's Instructional Materials Council Secretariat that the errors that Go found had been taken out of context.

He also endorsed the accusations made by Undersecretary Juan Miguel Luz that Go allegedly tried to sell his 82-page list of corrections to the book's publisher, Vibal Publishing through its sister company, SD Publications.

"We have to find out first if there is basis for that ad. If there is no basis, then we'll start thinking maliciously and we will pursue that angle," said Abad.

Vibal administrative officer Carina Espino refused to comment on Luz's allegations, saying the company's lawyers were preparing a reply to the INQUIRER's story on Go's assertions.

Go said he was ready to be investigated and stressed that his only motive was to have the mistakes corrected.

The INQUIRER was able to see for itself that the errors that Go had pointed out were indeed in the book and check them against the claims of the book's authors and the DepEd's Instructional Materials Council Secretariat.

For instance, in discussing India's caste system, the term "untouchables" was literally translated into "*hindi magalaw*" (cannot be touched) on page 198 of the book. The authors did not comment but the DepEd claimed not to have found the phrase.

On page 258, the sitar, an Indian musical instrument, is described as "*gawa sa pinatuyong kalabasa at may kwerdas na gawa sa teakwood.*"

The authors and DepEd said they found nothing wrong with the definition which, when translated, asserts that the strings were made of teakwood.

In discussing India's political history on page 199, "umbrella organization" was literally translated to "*napapayungang samahan.*" The authors and the DepEd said Go invented the sentence.

In discussing Jewish history on page 234, a sentence read that the Jews were ostracized because of their beliefs and traditions.

Though awkwardly put, the authors and the DepEd were right in saying that the book went on to say that one of these traditions is that the Germans killed millions of Jews during World War II.

The Great Wall of China was described to be only 170 miles long, instead of 1,500 miles (p. 261). The authors did not comment. The DepEd said it could not find the sentence.

The book said Islam began when the prophet Mohammad had the opportunity to meditate since he had married a rich though older wife, Khadija (pages 237 and 313).

The authors did not comment on this. The DepEd did not find anything wrong with it.

It was stated that Sun Yat-Sen changed his mind about the democratic parliamentary way of government and copied the structure of the Soviet Communist Party in forming the Communist Party (p.160). It should have read, the Kuomintang, not the Communist Party.

The authors did not comment. The DepEd said there was nothing wrong with the sentence as it did not explicitly say that Sun Yat-Sen formed the Communist Party of China.

In discussing what led to the Opium War, the book said the British knew that the Chinese were fond of opium though it was illegal (p.159). The authors cited the Encyclopedia Britannica 1998 edition to defend the assertion about the Chinese addiction to opium.

"Asya: Noon, Ngayon at sa Hinaharap," authored by Teofista Vivar, Evelina Viloria, Ruth Fuentes and the late Remedios Quiray, was first approved for use of second year high school students in public schools in 1997.

The DepEd acquired the textbook in 1999 and 2001 through loans from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, respectively.

The department has never recalled a textbook it has bought while it is still in use. Textbooks are bought every five years.

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Broken Vow	**POLY BROKEN**

Jerry Yan/F4 Songs	MONO TONES
I Want To Love You (Xiang Yao Ai Ni)	**TONE WANT2LUV**
I Want It Now	**TONE WANTNOW**
Fantasy	**TONE FANTASY**
Isolation (Ge Li)	**TONE ISOLATION**
Decoration (Pei Chen Pin)	**TONE DECORATION**
Can't Lose You	**TONE CANTLOSE**
Meteor Rain	**TONE METRAIN**
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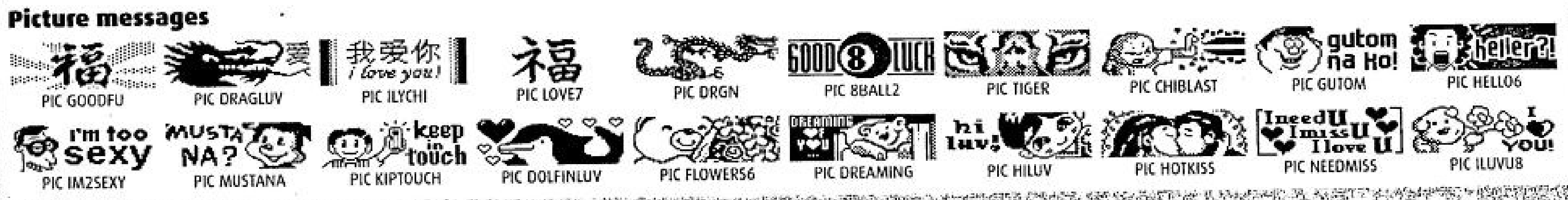
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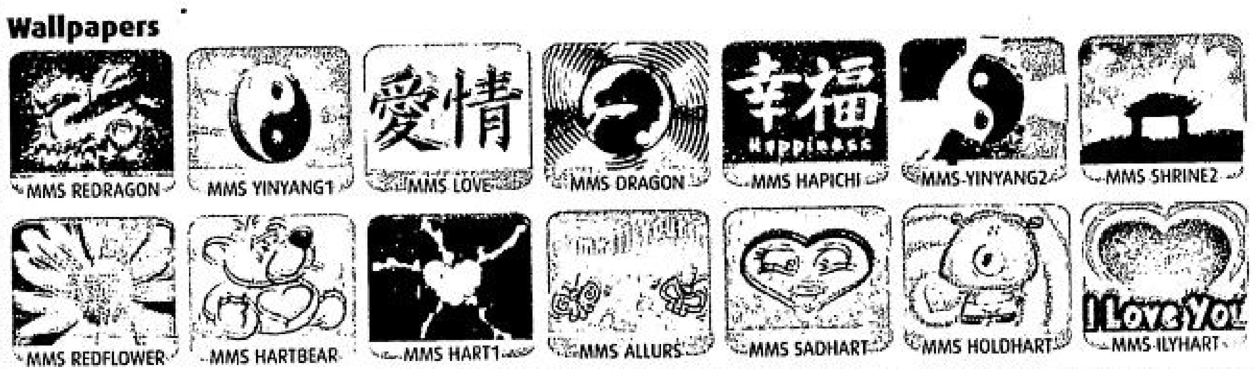
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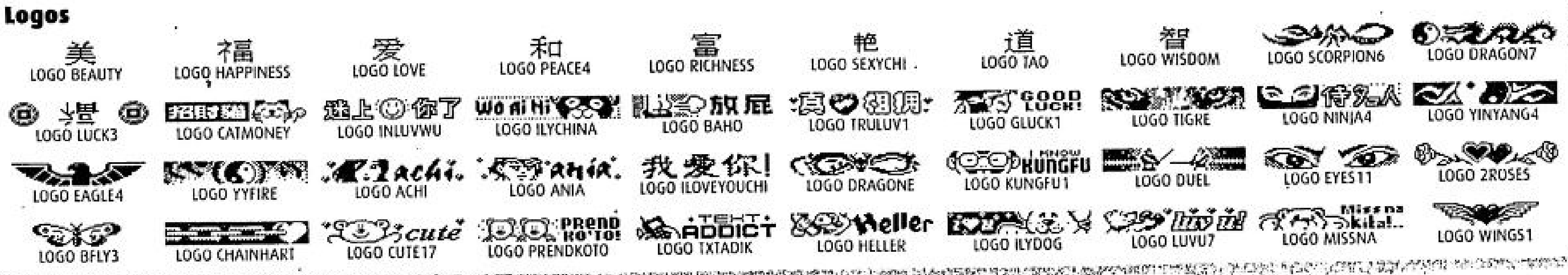
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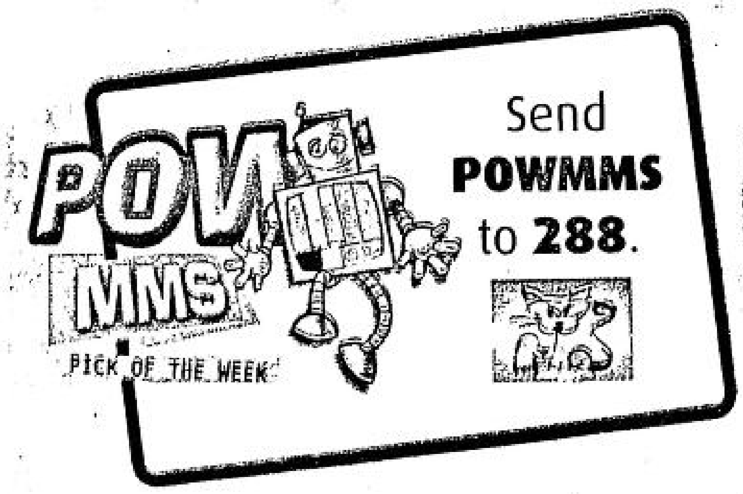
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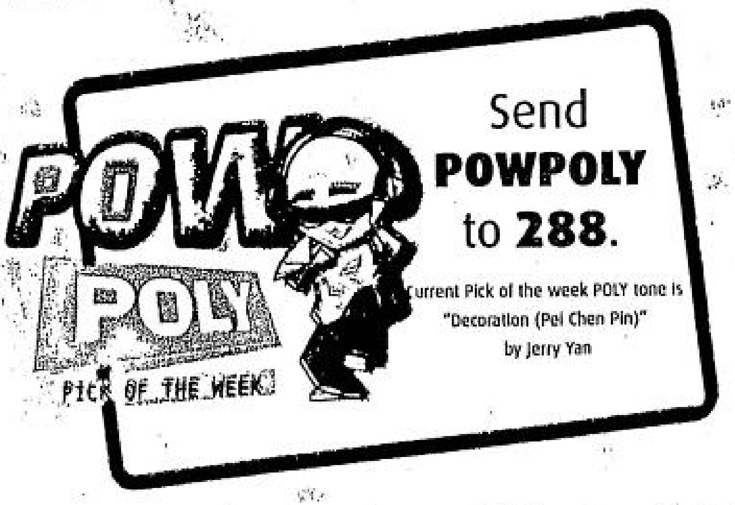
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SC orders ex-Sandiganbayan Garchitorena to explain P5-M retirement pay

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE SUPREME COURT has ordered former Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena to explain why he should not be declared in contempt of court for getting more than P5 million in retirement pay without securing the tribunal's approval.

The high court gave Garchitorena 10 days to submit his reply.

On Oct. 1, 2002, the high court approved Garchitorena's optional retirement on Sept. 27, 2002 "subject to verification and availability of funds."

He retired after the tribunal sanctioned him in November 2001 for inefficiency and gross neglect of duty.

On Jan. 22, 2003, Garchitorena asked the tribunal that he be allowed to tack his accumulated leave credits of more than three years to complete the 20 year-requirement under Republic Act 910, the law on the retirement of justices.

The tribunal then ordered the Supreme Court court administrator, administrative officer and chief legal officer to comment on Garchitorena's letter.

In the meantime, Garchitorena received a Sandiganbayan check dated Dec. 27, 2002 for P3,155,857, representing a five-year lump sum based on basic pay and longevity pay, and P2,041,976.88, representing his terminal leave benefits for more than 800 days leave credits, the tribunal said.

"Clearly therefrom, not only did (he) receive the total amount of P5,197,829.88 without securing first the final approval of the court as to the matter of tacking his leave credits . . ., he also received the full amount equivalent to his leave credits, thus leaving no other leave credits to tack to his years of service had he been allowed to retire under RA 910," the court said.

"Moreover, serious questions arise as to whether the former PJ Garchitorena should be allowed to retire under RA 910 considering the fact that he was administratively sanctioned and fined in the resolution dated Nov. 28, 2001 for inefficiency and gross neglect of duty," it added.

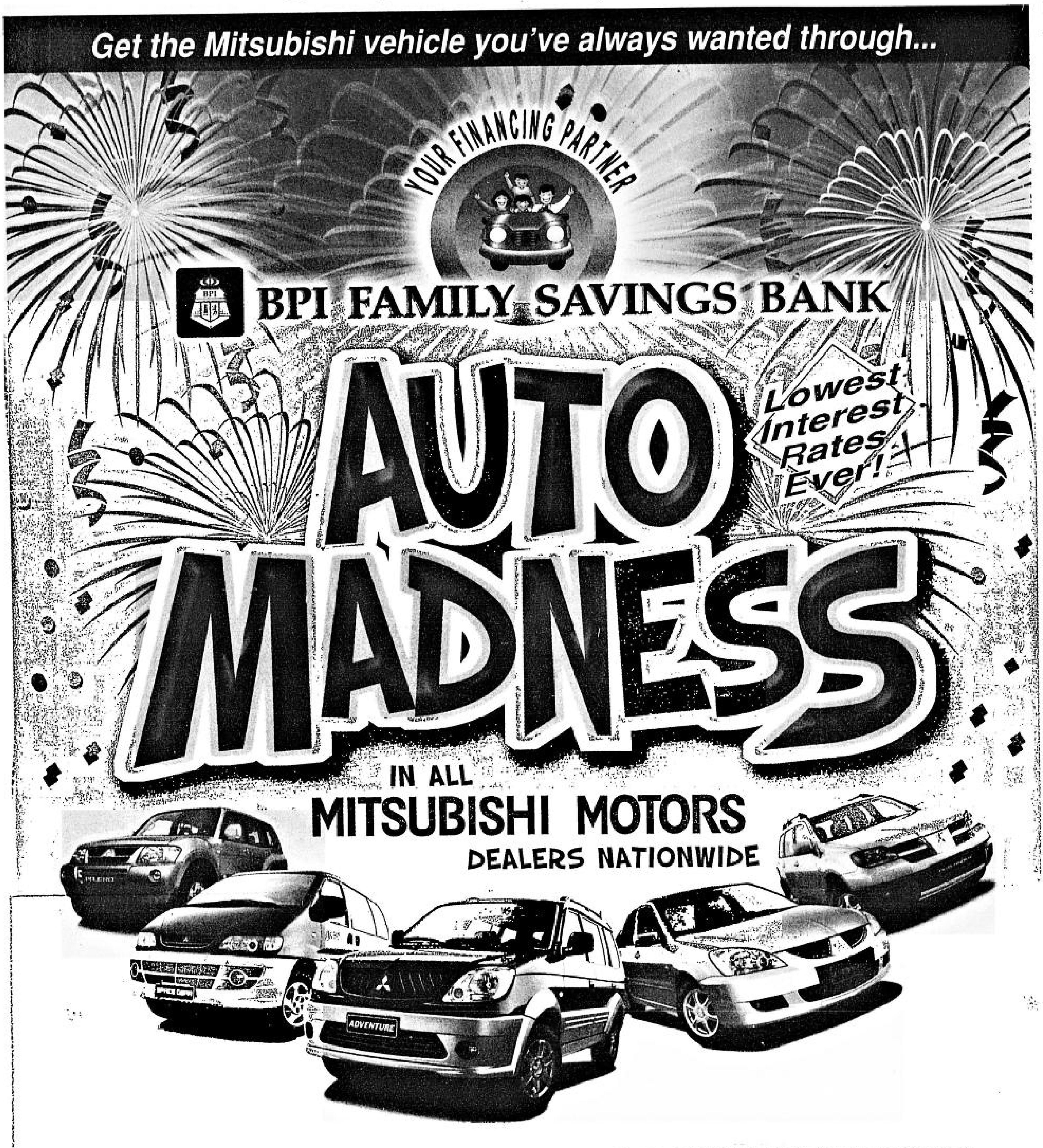
Palace: No posts for Nora, Beth

By Juliet L. Javellana

MALACAÑANG made a special effort yesterday to firmly deny reports that actresses Nora Aunor and Elizabeth Oropesa had been appointed or would be appointed to positions in government.

"There's no truth to those reports," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in a statement relayed to Palace reporters by Press Undersecretary Isabel de Leon.

For two days, Bunye was persistently asked if Oropesa had been appointed director of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. or if Aunor was the new chair of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board.



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2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T	698,000	84,700	29,252	20,840	16,713	14,657	13,294
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	88,700	31,767	22,632	18,149	15,917	14,437
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	85,700	35,120	25,020	20,065	17,597	15,961
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T	675,000	81,250	28,289	20,154	16,162	14,174	12,858
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T	700,000	85,000	29,336	20,900	16,760	14,699	13,332
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	58,000	31,013	22,094	17,718	15,539	14,094
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	79,250	33,318	23,737	19,035	16,694	15,142
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	80,750	33,737	24,035	19,275	16,904	15,332
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	848,000	107,200	35,539	25,319	20,304	17,807	16,151
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	105,250	39,185	27,917	22,387	19,634	17,808
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	980,000	127,000	41,071	29,260	23,465	20,579	18,665
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T	1,180,000	87,000	48,511	34,561	27,715	24,307	22,254
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	77,000	53,643	38,217	30,648	26,879	24,379

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Model	SRP	DP	24	36	48	60	72
2004 Lancer 1.6 GL M/T	658,000	319,000	15,294	10,896	8,738	7,663	7,155
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX M/T	698,000	319,000	16,224	11,559	9,269	8,129	7,590
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	341,000	17,619	12,552	10,066	8,828	8,243
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	389,000	19,478	13,877	11,128	9,760	9,113
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel M/T**	675,000	337,500	15,701	11,186	8,970	7,867	7,123
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas M/T**	700,000	350,000	16,317	11,625	9,323	8,176	7,403
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel M/T*	740,000	337,000	17,200	12,254	9,827	8,618	8,047
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas M/T	795,000	377,500	18,479	13,165	10,557	9,259	8,645
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	805,000	382,500	18,711	13,330	10,690	9,375	8,754
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	848,000	424,000	19,966	14,224	11,407	10,004	9,081
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel M/T	935,000	447,500	21,733	15,483	12,416	10,889	10,167
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T**	980,000	490,000	23,220	16,543	13,266	11,635	10,540
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T**	1,180,000	590,000	24,583***	17,319	13,889	12,181	11,114
2004 Outlander 2.4 Gas AWD A/T	1,280,000	535,000	29,752	21,196	16,998	14,908	13,919

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Reds warn gov't vs compromise on Marcos loot

COMMUNIST guerrillas yesterday issued a warning against seeking a compromise with the widow and cronies of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos as the government embarks on a campaign to heal national rifts.

Communist Party of the Philippines spokesman Gregorio Rosal said it was deplorable that successive administrations have failed to mete out justice for Marcos' widow, Imelda, and friends, alleging it was because the administrations had an interest in Marcos' ill-gotten wealth.

On Tuesday, the 32nd anniversary of Marcos' declaration of martial law, President Macapagal-Arroyo convened a high-level policy advisory body to discuss national reconciliation.

She said it was time to heal wounds from the 1986 "people power" revolt that toppled Marcos, a similar bloodless revolt that booted former President Joseph Estrada in 2001, and the failed bid by tens of thousands of Estrada supporters to storm Malacañang on May 1, 2001, to oust Ms Arroyo.

Rosal said official statements that the government was seeking "closure" to the Marcos issue "smacks of a deal where Imelda will be let off the hook in exchange for a share of the Marcos loot."

It was unclear how such a deal would be carried out because the law states that all of Marcos' wealth must go to the government's land reform program.

Rosal said in his statement that the only thing that gets in the way of a compromise agreement between Mrs. Marcos and Ms Arroyo is the vigilance of Marcos' victims and other people's organizations.

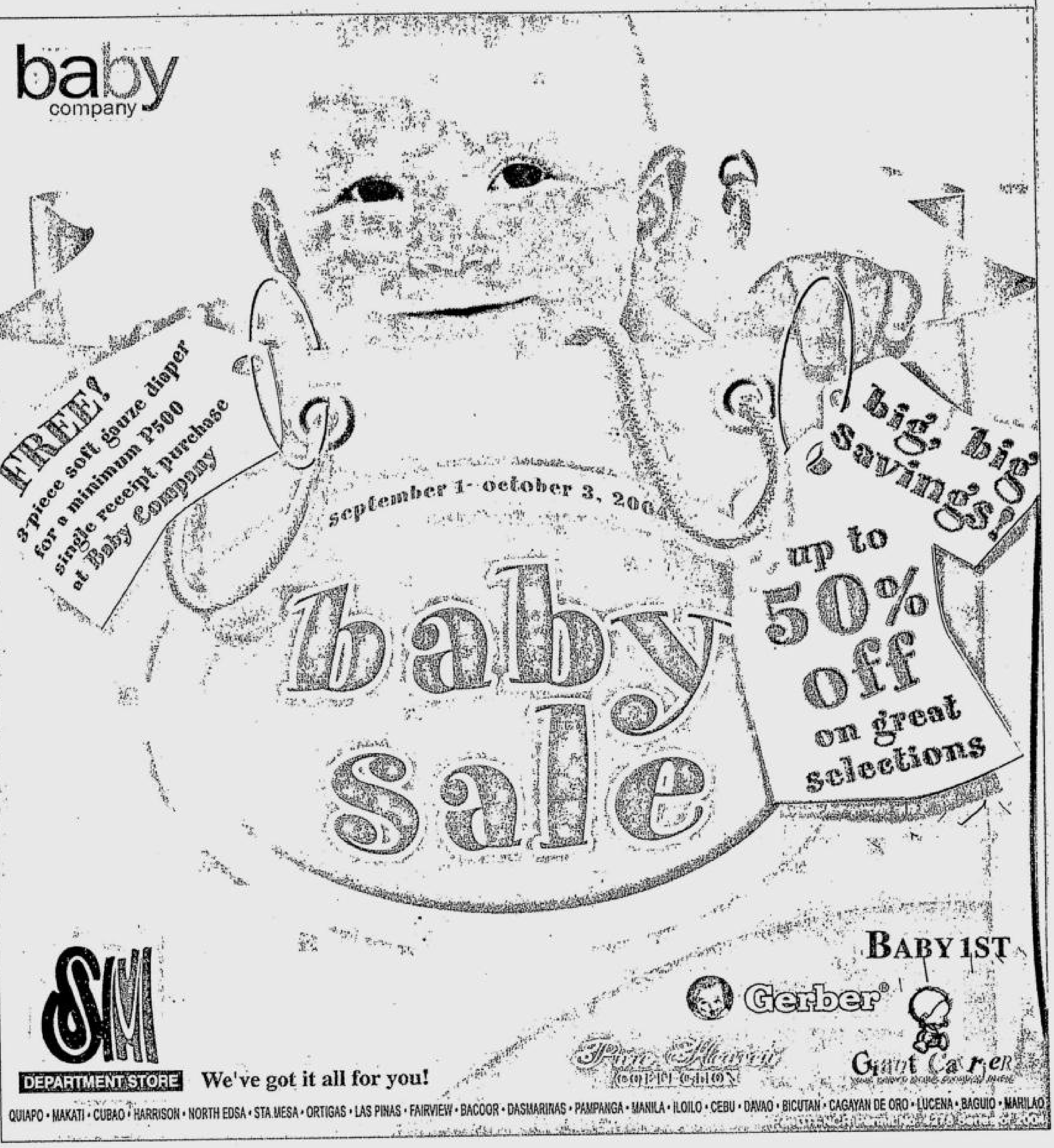
Presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye earlier made assurances that recovered Marcos wealth will be treated "judiciously and transparently in accordance with the law."

He said Ms Arroyo wants a substantial part to go to human rights victims. However, the law mandating that the money go to land reform would first have to be amended.

In 1995, a Honolulu jury awarded a class action by 9,539 Filipinos US$2 billion after finding Marcos responsible for summary executions, disappearances and torture during his 14-year rule.

The award has grown to at least US$3.7 billion with interest, but none of the victims has received any money.

Marcos and his family fled to Hawaii in February 1986, ending his 20-year rule during which he allegedly pocketed billions of dollars in government funds. He died in Honolulu in 1989 without admitting any wrongdoing. *AP*



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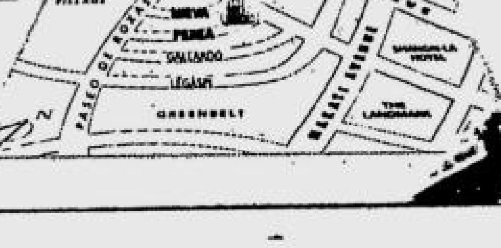

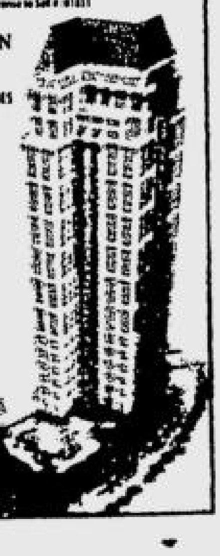

Govt's do make deals with kidnappers

By Michel Sailhan

PARIS—While Britain has repeatedly said it will not deal with Islamic extremists holding a Briton hostage in Iraq, past practice shows that governments negotiate, and sometimes even pay ransoms, to kidnappers.

In Iraq, where the kidnapping of foreign nationals has become more and more frequent, several recent examples indicate that governments are willing to pay up or offer political concessions to secure the release of their nationals.

President Macapagal-Arroyo agreed to withdraw her country's tiny contingent of 50 soldiers from Iraq in a bid to save the life of a 46-year-old truck driver threatened with beheading.

The hostage was released on July 20, one day after his government bowed to the kidnappers' demands.

Ms Arroyo defended the widely criticized move, saying the lives of overseas Filipino workers were a matter of "deep national interest."

In Italy, where the country was in anguish Thursday over reports that two female aid workers taken hostage in Iraq had been murdered, the government of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi also has refused to negotiate with extremists.

But several reports suggested that Rome had indeed paid a ransom in June for the release of three other Italian hostages held in Iraq.

Gino Strada, a surgeon who heads the humanitarian agency Emergency and who participated in efforts to negotiate their release, alleged $9 million had been handed over to an Iraqi go-between to buy their freedom.

One of the alleged kidnappers, Abu Yussuf, later told Britain's Sunday Times newspaper that $4 million had exchanged hands.

Individuals have also successfully negotiated with kidnappers in Iraq. Jordanian businessman Adel Ubeidallah, who was abducted in Baghdad in July, was released after his family made a ransom payment of $100,000.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw vowed on Thursday not to deal with the extremists holding British engineer Kenneth Bigley hostage, despite a dramatic appeal from Bigley himself begging Prime Minister Tony Blair to intervene.

Bigley is being held by the al-Qaida-linked Tawhid wal Jihad (Unity and Holy War) group, which is said to be run by the most wanted man in Iraq, Jordanian-born Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi.

London has traditionally refused to negotiate with kidnappers but in 1987 Terry Waite—a special envoy for the Archbishop of Canterbury, the spiritual head of the worldwide Anglican church—was sent to Lebanon to negotiate the release of Western hostages.

Waite was himself kidnapped and held for nearly five years—from January 1987 until November 1991—by a shadowy group calling itself Islamic Jihad, much of the time in solitary confinement.

Last year, while never admitting it, Germany is widely believed to have paid ransom in exchange for the release of 14 European hostages, including nine Germans, who were held by extremists for five months in the Sahara desert.

Diplomats in the Malian capital Bamako said Libya acted as an intermediary, paying five million euros to the Islamist kidnappers, members of Algeria's hardline Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat.

In 1999, India broke earlier pledges not to negotiate with extremists and freed three jailed Islamic militants in exchange for 178 passengers and 11 crew members aboard an Indian Airlines aircraft hijacked to then Taliban-ruled Afghanistan. *AFP*

2 Egyptians added to list of kidnapped aliens in Iraq

BAGHDAD—Gunmen kidnapped two Egyptians during the night in Baghdad, police said on Friday, as relatives of a seized Briton, whose two colleagues have been beheaded, waited for news on his fate.

The Egyptians were snatched in their office late on Thursday by gunmen who had overpowered and tied up their guards. They worked for the firm that runs the Baghdad mobile phone network.

Their kidnapping was the latest in a hostage crisis that has added to the problems of Iraq's interim government as it struggles to stifle guerrilla violence enough to hold credible elections by the end of January as scheduled.

Earlier this month, gunmen kidnapped two women Italian aid workers in broad daylight in Baghdad. Internet statements from two guerrilla groups say they have been killed, but Italy's government has dismissed the claims as "unreliable."

Last week, armed men seized two Americans and a Briton at a house they shared in Baghdad. A group led by Washington's top foe in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, beheaded American hostages Eugene Armstrong and Jack Hensley and has posted video footage of the killings on the Internet.

The group says it will also kill Briton Kenneth Bigley, 62, unless all Iraqi women are freed from US-run jails.

After initial confusion over whether one of two Iraqi women in US custody would be released, Iraq's government said it would not negotiate with the kidnappers and that neither of the two women would be freed imminently. Britain has also said it will not bow to the demands of Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad group.

More than 100 foreign hostages have been seized since April.

Most have been released but around 30 have been killed.

Until this month, almost all the kidnapped foreigners were snatched on Iraq's perilous roads. But the capture of foreigners in Baghdad, seemingly carefully planned, is a new development.

President George W. Bush said on Thursday that he and Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi would "stay the course" in Iraq and insisted elections will be held in January despite the violence.

In a joint news conference at the White House, both men said violence should not stop the polls from proceeding.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld conceded that some areas that are guerrilla strongholds may have to be excluded, with polls going ahead in "three-quarters or four-fifths" of Iraq.

"Well, so be it. Nothing's perfect in life, so you have an election that's not quite perfect," Rumsfeld told the Senate armed services committee. *Reuters*

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Thai woman, 2 kids believed dead of bird flu

BANGKOK—A woman and two children have died of suspected bird flu in Thailand, succumbing to severe pneumonia after family chickens died in two of the households, public health officials said Friday.

An 11-year-old girl fell ill on Sept. 2 and died 10 days later, and a boy aged 13 became sick Sept. 15 and died on Tuesday, according to an official statement from the health ministry.

"On Sept. 22 we received two new suspect cases who were already dead, both in Kamphaeng Phet province" about 358 km northwest of Bangkok, Kumnuan Ungchusak, director of the ministry's bureau of epidemiology, said in the statement.

The girl's mother, who lived in a Bangkok suburb, also died on Monday just days after traveling to Kamphaeng Phet to tend to her sick daughter and then attend her funeral, a bureau official said.

The woman died of severe pneumonia at a hospital in Nonthaburi province bordering Bangkok, and after a preliminary investigation the disease control department placed her on Thailand's suspect list, officials said.

Further laboratory tests were underway to determine whether the two children, who lived in different villages in Khanuworalaksaburi district, and the 26-year-old mother died of the killer virus.

Five of the girl's family chickens died before she fell ill, while 20 of the boy's chickens died in August. Culling had yet to be ordered in the area, officials said.

It was not immediately clear if the mother had come into contact with chickens or other fowl.

Bird flu's virulent H5N1 strain has killed 28 people in Vietnam and Thailand this year and led to the slaughter of more than 100 million chickens and birds in 10 countries in Asia that were hit by the virus in two separate waves of outbreaks.

The World Health Organization fears that the H5N1 virus could mutate into a highly contagious form that triggers a global human flu pandemic.

Thailand's health minister, Sudarat Keyuraphan, said it was too early to determine if the three Thais died of bird flu, and cautioned against suggestions that the virus was mutating in Thailand into a form transmittable between humans.

"We have to wait for the lab test results," she said. "Don't jump the gun and assume that the bird flu virus has mutated."

Thai health authorities have contacted the WHO office in Bangkok about the deaths. "The WHO is keeping a close watch on the matter and is in coordination with the Ministry of Health," a WHO official said.

The health ministry had listed 14 cases of suspected bird flu in people early Friday, including the three deaths, but revised the figure to five after test results on nine people confirmed they did not have the virus.

Since the second wave of bird flu began in early July, Thai authorities have confirmed 149 outbreak spots in 30 provinces and culled 785,388 birds.

Neighboring Cambodia announced Wednesday it had detected a new outbreak of bird flu in chickens, becoming the sixth Asian nation to report a resurgence of the virus. **AFP**

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Airport screeners in US fail to see arms, explosives

WASHINGTON—Plainclothes federal agents managed to smuggle weapons and explosives past security screening devices at several US airports in an undercover test conducted a year ago, according to a government report made public Thursday.

The test, conducted by the Department of Homeland Security's Transport Security Administration (TSA) between July and November 2003, highlighted deficiencies in airport screening two years after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

During the operation, TSA agents passed through security checks carrying the contraband on their persons or in carry-on luggage, said the public portions of the report, which did not disclose the exact nature of the smuggled material. Portions of the report were classified.

The operation took place at 15 US airports across the country, highlighting problems in detecting explosives such as those used to blow up two airliners in Russia last month, according to USA Today.

The national daily said Rep. John Mica, chair of a House aviation subcommittee, confirmed that weapons and explosives had been missed by airport screeners.

The results on weapons were "bad enough," he said, but those on explosives were "absolutely horrendous."

The federal government assumed oversight for airport security following the Sept. 11 attacks in which hijackers crashed four passenger airplanes in New York, Washington and a Pennsylvania field, killing nearly 3,000 people.

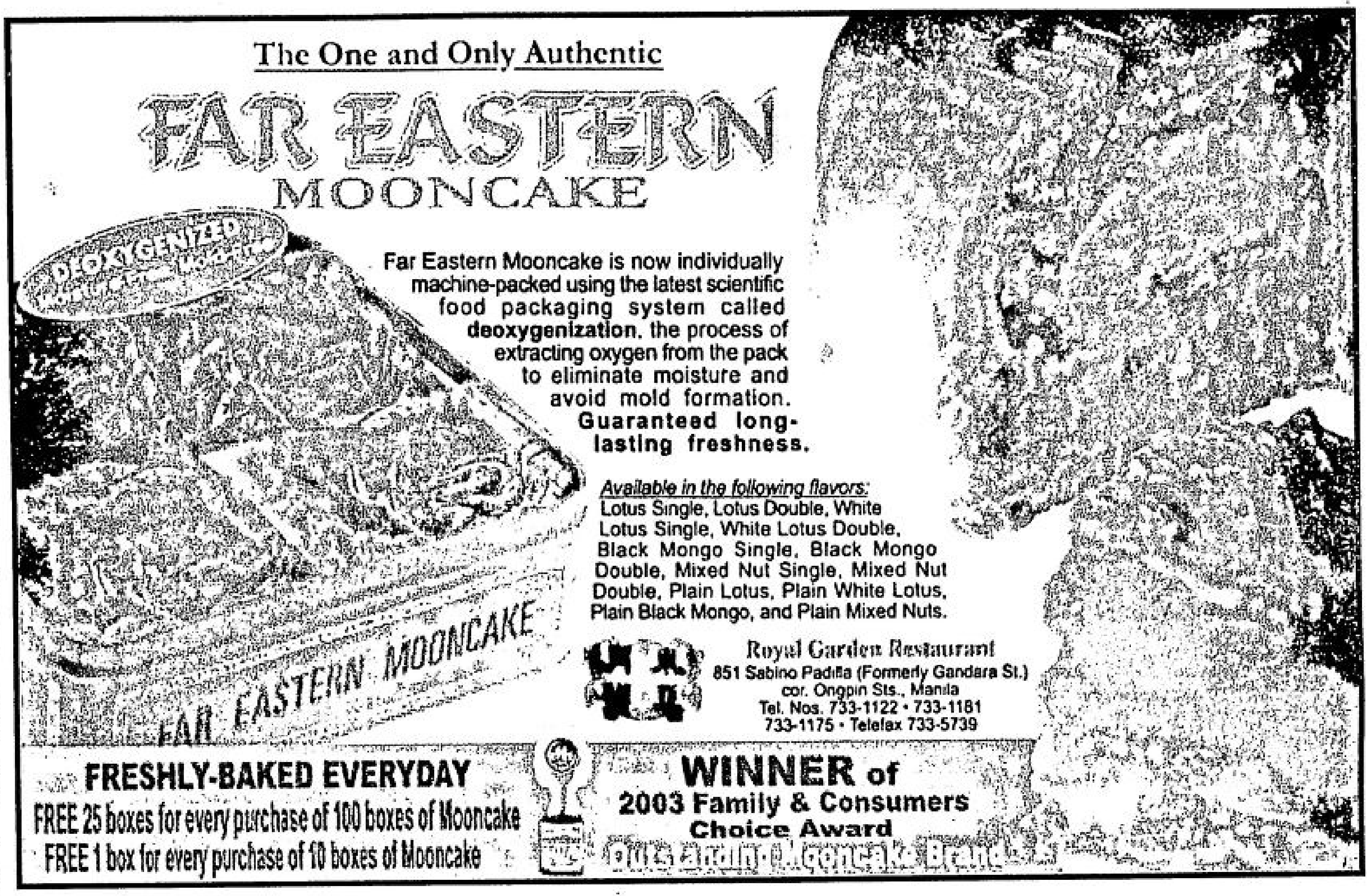
As he released part of the report to Congress on Wednesday, Homeland Security Insp. General Clark Ervin said the performance of airport screeners "was poor," according to USA Today.

The report blames the failure to detect weapons on four areas which need improvement: training, technology, procedures and management.

"The lack of recurrent training led to many of the checkpoints test failures," the report says. It proposes that airports use X-ray machines that show objects in three dimensions.

In another test conducted by the Homeland Security department last year, plainclothes agents smuggled guns, knives and box cutters through airport security.

The TSA meanwhile announced installation at three additional airports of a new "explosives trace detection document scanner that can 'sniff' passenger documents such as boarding passes and drivers' licenses for traces of explosives." The device was installed at Washington's Reagan National Airport two weeks ago, and will be installed at Los Angeles International, New York's Kennedy International and Chicago's O'Hare International. **AFP**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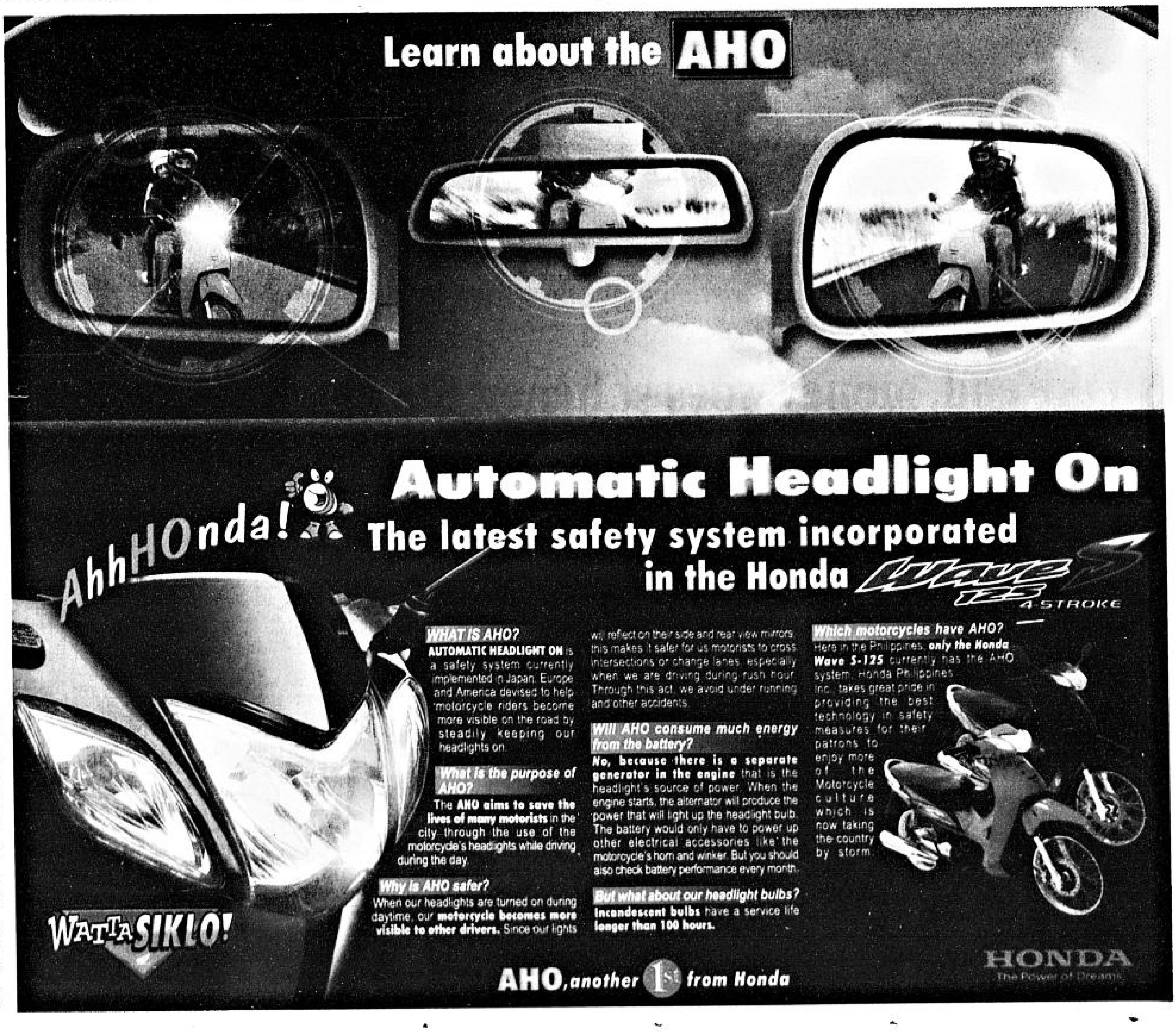
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Magdalo boys apologize

From page A1

"We have concluded that the only way to achieve this is for our people to be united in moving toward our vision."

"In this light, we apologize to our Commander in Chief, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, as we declare our unequivocal commitment to peace and reconciliation with her administration. We also enjoin others to do the same to finally complete our nation's healing process."

Except for Faeldon, the others were members of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1995 (Marilag). Gambala graduated at the top of his class. Trillanes was the spokesperson of the group during the mutiny and had once derisively described Ms Arroyo as someone who kept on "yakking and yakking."

When they took over Oakwood, the so-called Magdalo group said they had broken away from the AFP's chain of command. They also denounced corruption within the Armed Forces and blamed then Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes and then AFP intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus for the bombings in Davao.

They had also lambasted then Philippine National Police Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. for allegedly allowing foreign terrorist Fathur Rohman Al-Ghozi to escape.

The mutineers surrendered to the authorities hours later and have been under detention by the military since then on coup charges.

False information

The six also apologized for damaging and casting aspersions on the reputation of the AFP.

"As a result of our actions at Oakwood, we have damaged the AFP as an institution. To this, we are attesting [to] the fact that the AFP is still very much capable of protecting the people and fighting the enemies of the state. We also have overstated the extent of corruption in the AFP and hereby acknowledge that there were indeed efforts to eradicate this problem even prior to the Oakwood incident."

They also apologized to Reyes, Corpus and Ebdane and their families for the accusations hurled against them.

"We admit that we believed the false information we obtained at that time and now categorically state that they are totally innocent of these charges."

"As honorable men, we humbly make these amends to provide the proper closure of the incident," the statement ended.

As if to signify their desire to recognize once more the chain of command, all six Magdalo leaders saluted Ms Arroyo upon her arrival and she returned the salute.

'Courage and humility'

After Gambala read the statement and before being ushered out of the conference hall, the six again saluted Arroyo. They sported the required military haircuts and were in their uniforms.

All looked grim and expressionless while Gambala was reading the group's statement.

Ms Arroyo commended the young officers for their "courage and humility" in apologizing.

"What the young officers have done today is a great step toward healing," she said. "They reiterated that they accept the need to face the consequences of their actions."

She also said that, on a personal note, she accepted their apology.

"Let me say that I feel no rancor," she said. "It is my duty as Commander in Chief to do what is best for peace and stability and prosperity in the our country and, therefore, I accept the apology that they so humble made."

She said that there would be no immediate amnesty given to all Magdalo soldiers but that she had instructed the military "to proceed with greater leniency against the rank and file who were misled into joining their misadventure, in accordance however with court-martial proceedings."

Ready for consequences

Ms Arroyo also said the cases against the Magdalo leaders would continue.

"You noticed there is nothing (in) their statement that asked for exoneration. They are ready to face the consequences of their action," she said.

She explained that during the negotiations for the surrender of the Magdalo soldiers last year, the leaders said they were willing to face the consequences but they had hoped their followers could be reinstated.

"The benefit of the doubt should be given to the followers but if they can somehow show that they were misled, after all they have been already detained for quite some time, then they can be possibly reinstated but in accordance with the rules of the Armed Forces and court martial," she said.

The President also said there could be no pardon or executive clemency for the leaders of the group without a conviction.

Ms Arroyo held a closed-door meeting with the young officers for five minutes after the public session.

"I believe the general impression from all those present (in the meeting) is that they [six officers] are sincere in this actuation and that is appreciated," she said.

Presidential Adviser on the Implementation of Feliciano Commission Recommendations Prof. Carolina Hernandez said she was pleased with the apology.

Gonzalez firm on charges

"The Magdalo officers came forward because their training as officers and gentlemen in the end prevailed. I am also pleased that they are not asking for clemency but they are saying they will face the full force of the law, which is consistent with the Feliciano Commission recommendations."

The Feliciano Commission, headed by retired Justice Florentino Feliciano of which Hernandez was a member, was formed to investigate the causes of the Oakwood mutiny.

Ambassador Roy Cimatu, who negotiated the surrender of the Magdalo soldiers, said he was glad the officers apologized, saying this finished what he started during the negotiations.

Marilag Class president Air Force Capt. Tony Salgado said his class was "very happy" with the apology. "We are looking forward to the peaceful reconciliation (of the Magdalo soldiers) with the national authorities."

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday said that the coup charges against the mutiny leaders would proceed despite their apologies.

Gonzalez said that the government could not afford to have a repeat of the events during the Aquino administration.

"They were given only pushups after their first attempt (to grab power) and they did it again, and again, and again, and again," Gonzalez said. *With a report from Philip C. Tubeza*

Filipinos inherently forgiving, scholars say

By Volt Contreras

GIVING offenders a "second chance" rather than punishing them is inherently Filipino.

Scholars interviewed by the INQUIRER agreed that the "apology" offered yesterday by the Magdalo mutineers should come as no surprise in light of the Filipino's "forgiving" nature.

"We have very good laws but we wouldn't mind a settlement if it is still possible. We rarely condemn people; we just require them to change their ways," said Dr. Elizabeth Ventura, psychology department head of the University of the Philippines.

She added: "We are not very legalistic except on impersonal matters, such as cases involving money or [disputes between] big corporations that don't have a human face. For example, everyone agrees that we should seriously go after tax evasion."

Under the Filipino "concept of justice," said another psychology professor, Flory Lagbao Bolante of the De La Salle University, "what is prescribed by law is not necessarily just."

"We tend to forgive easily when we find something valid in the reasons [behind the offense]," she said. "That's why we have the phrase *'nadadaan sa magandang usapan.'*"

In the case of the Magdalo mutiny, society at large may have even agreed with the soldiers' gripes against corruption in the military, Bolante said.

"What we only disapproved of was the method they used to air their complaints. We've grown tired of coups and anything that would disrupt our way of life," she said.

One explanation for this, Ventura said, could be "the way we are raised in our families to understand and always look into the context of one's behavior."

For example, rather than be "rigid" over rights or claims, step-siblings generally do not regard each other with spite but look after each other's welfare even when one is illegitimate, Ventura said.

And, of course, the prodigal child is always given a second chance, she said.

Apology: Compromise or playing with fire?

From page A1

group (of reformist soldiers) is not getting smaller but bigger.

"The other options are so unattractive that the two parties decided to go into this middle ground to minimize damage to each other."

On demands that the mutineers should face the full force of the law, Robles said: "You cannot impose justice on one group while allowing smuggling, *jueteng* and other scandals to flourish... The rebels will just continue to grow and they are susceptible to being harnessed by elements that are against Gloria. A military takeover becomes attractive if the government is weak.

"In the 1930s, a series of coups occurred in Japan with strikingly similar reasons to ours. They arrested [the plotters] and beheaded them. The fire became bigger... The pendulum swung to the other extreme and the government became militarized."

Right ideas, wrong steps

- Peter Wallace, president of the Wallace Business Forum, which advises multinationals on country risks: "It's excellent for both parties. I think the mutineers appear to be idealistic young men who believe they had genuine issues but were too immature to realize the correct way of raising their issues. Absolutely right ideas but wrong way to do it.

"I don't think [this will encourage adventurism] because the President said the trial must proceed so they haven't been left off."

- A senior official of an international consultancy group, who asked not to be identified: "This will encourage adventurism because the perpetrators are not being punished enough. The government needs to make an example. This will further discourage investment because there will be less confidence on government ability to control the military and the country in general. In other countries, they are handled according to military rules, which would require strict punishment, such as discharge, if not long term imprisonment."

Curb the military

- Guillermo Luz, executive director of the Makati Business Club: "We agree that the case [against the officers] should continue. The government needs to follow the rule of law."

Federation of Philippine Industries president Jesus Arranza: "If such officers and soldiers are not prosecuted in court, there will be no end to attempts of grabbing power by force. In time, mutineers would become more brazen. The military must be a disciplined organization as it should be."

Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry vice president Donald Dee: "It's good that they apologized, but continuing the case is the way things should be."

- Jun Mendoza, head of investments and research at Banco de Oro Trust: "The issue has been neutralized and immediately addressed. We don't see any impact on investments."

Apology not enough

- Allan Yu, vice president for Metrobank's Trust Banking group: "This should help government focus on more urgent matters like the fiscal situation."
- University of the Philippines political science professor Amado Mendoza Jr.: "It's good they apologized, but the apology will not be acceptable if they don't accept that they have to be punished anyway... It will be a bad thing if the President orders them released just because of the apology. It wasn't just the President who was adversely affected by the failed coup. It was the entire country."
- Francisco Magno, executive director of the La Salle Institute of Government: "It (the apology) is good for the country, and for peace and stability, which are important ingredients for governance... It's very important for government to show it's committed to (military) reform."

Apologize to the people

- Former President Fidel V. Ramos: "The men and women in uniform [should be reminded] that the Armed Forces of the Philippines is first and foremost a citizens' armed forces, which means that civilian authority over the military must be observed at all times."

Ramos commended the mutiny leaders for "taking the bold step to apologize to the civilian authority of the country." He expressed optimism that this will usher in a new beginning in the government's desire to forge permanent peace on all fronts.

- Sen. Manny Villar: "This is a very welcome reprieve from all the bad news that we have been bombarded with about the problematic state of our economy. This will also enhance our country's image in the international community.. We have laws and we have to follow them. Those who violate the laws run the risk of being convicted. But I think the President is sincere—she wants reconciliation."
- Sen. Rodolfo Biazon: "If they want to apologize, they must apologize to the whole nation and not only to the President... The apology must be delivered to the whole government setup but more important to the whole country, to all Filipinos because what [the rebels] did, did not only affect the government but it affected the whole nation, even the lives of the whole populace of this country."

GMA inclined to forgive

"[The] apology so far extended will not dissolve the judicial process, whether in the military court or civilian court... I am asking these gentlemen to name the politicians who they are claiming were responsible for [what they did]."

- Sen. Joker Arroyo said he believed Ms Arroyo was inclined to grant amnesty to the rebels. He said Filipinos tended to forgive and forget.
- Senate President Franklin Drilon said he was open to the idea of granting amnesty to the mutineers. "We have had cases wherein officers, after availing of amnesty, went back to the fold and pursued successful careers. I do not foreclose my voting in favor of the grant of amnesty." *With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Christine O. Avendaño, Ronnel W. Domingo, Elizabeth L. Sanchez and D.J. Yap, PDI Research*

In the end, money woes softened the tough boys

From page A1

step toward their return to the mainstream of society, said lawyer Argee Guevarra, counsel for Lt. Antonio Trillanes IV.

"It is to the best interest of the Arroyo administration to see to it that the mutineers are back in the mainstream, and it would be best for Trillanes and company and their men to be out of jail," Guevarra said.

"It's also for the national interest that we have stability," he added.

The changing of the guard in the defense establishment also opened the door for a dialogue with the mutiny leaders, according to the Palace official. He said the appointment of a civilian, Avelino "Nonong" Cruz Jr., to the top defense post was a major factor in the mutiny leaders' change of heart.

"Secretary Nonong Cruz initiated reforms, so they really softened up. They felt that this is a new cabal they are talking to," he said.

The official said Cruz's predecessor Eduardo Ermita, now executive secretary, was still regarded as part of the old boys' club of the military. But he said Ermita also "initiated" the meetings with the Magdalo group along with Cruz.

He said Ermita and Cruz were familiar with the issue as members of the Cabinet oversight committee on internal security even prior to their new appointments.

He added that the active role of presidential adviser Carolina Hernandez in pushing the Feliciano Commission's recommendations likewise showed the Magdalo group that the Arroyo administration was serious in pursuing reforms.

No surprise

The whole thing was apparently in the works for some time.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye confirmed that President Macapagal-Arroyo visited the Marine headquarters in Fort Bonifacio Wednesday night to look into the conditions at the detention camp.

"Yes, that is true, and she had a firsthand look at the condition inside the camp. Specifically, she inquired about the condition of the detention area and had a dialogue with some officials in the camp," he said in a radio interview.

Bunye issued an advance notice on Thursday that the President was to visit Camp Aguinaldo yesterday for some important announcements.

An INQUIRER source in the military said the "thawing" started soon after the first anniversary of the mutiny.

Sometime in August, the six Magdalo leaders were allowed to play basketball at the gymnasium of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp). They were also allowed to play badminton outside the maximum detention quarters.

This was a radical departure from the solitary confinement imposed on them immediately after their detention at the Isafp in July 2003. The conditions started to ease toward December, but stringent measures were imposed again in the months prior to the May elections.

A ranking Isafp officer said he expected "more leniency" for the detainees.

"If we were lenient before, we will be more lenient now," he said.

Trillanes, for instance, was allowed to go home several times to Baguio City for some emergencies, while Capt. Gary Alejano was allowed to visit his wife last October when she delivered their child.

Happy

The Isafp officer said Ms Arroyo assured the mutiny leaders "leniency" during her 30-minute private meeting with them after the press conference.

"It was a very jolly gathering. The President was happy, and the officers also looked happy," the officer said, adding:

"They took turns assuring the President that they meant every word they said at the press conference, and [she] also assured them that she was sincere in what she had said. They all hoped that the suspicions were no longer there."

But the officer also said Ms Arroyo "did not make specific commitments."

The private meeting was held at the office of Defense Secretary Cruz on the third floor of the defense building.

Letter

Sources said that prior to the apology, some ranking AFP officials, including at least nine class presidents of the Philippine Military Academy, started conducting back-channel negotiations with the mutiny leaders.

In August, the leaders wrote Ms Arroyo a letter, the same letter that Capt. Gerardo Gambala read aloud at the press conference.

Other sources told the INQUIRER that the mutiny leaders conducted a series of consultations before the apology.

The presidents of various PMA classes were reportedly the ones who actively facilitated and followed up the letter.

Among the reported brokers were Ermita, Lt. Gen. Alberto Fernando Braganza, Lt. Christopher Magdangal and former Justice Harriet Demetriou,

Magdangal, No. 2 in the PMA graduating class of 1995, is a military aide of Ms Arroyo's. Demetriou is a lawyer of the mutiny leaders. *With a report from Joselle d.R. Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

1989 COUP attempt

History of coups

From page A1

military personnel breaks out in at least eight areas, including Camp Aguinaldo. The uprising lasts a day and a half, and at least 53 are killed while more than 200 are hurt.

December 1989

The bloodiest coup attempt against Aquino spreads to several provinces and cities, leaving 99 people dead, 570 wounded and an estimated P800 million to P1 billion in damages.

October 1990

Col. Alexander Noble seizes two military camps in Mindanao—Camp Evangelista in Cagayan de Oro City and Bangkasi Army Headquarters in Butuan City.

December 21, 1990

An attempt is made to bomb the Basa Air Base in Floridablanca, Pampanga, where the PAF jet fighters are stationed.

July 27, 2003

A mutinous group of some 323 young soldiers plants powerful bombs in parts of Glorietta in Makati City, storm the mall's basement parking area, and occupy the Oakwood Premier Apartments. The mutineers surrender hours later.

SOURCES: PDI ARCHIVES, DAVIDE COMMISSION REPORT

Businessmen want GMA to zap Northrail

BAGUIO CITY—Members of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) have asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to withdraw a P6-billion loan contract that gives a Chinese firm control over the North Rail project.

They said the government was "fooled" into adopting onerous terms when it contracted the China National Machinery and Equipment Corp.

Ambassador Donald Dee, newly designated presidential envoy for international trade relations, said businessmen instead asked Ms Arroyo to consider an offer made by a South Korean firm which has designed a cheaper mass railway project now linking Seoul to Pusan.

Dee, former president of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines, said Ms Arroyo was amenable to the businessmen's request.

"She asked me to give her the documents. If they're good, she assured me she will drop the Chinese contract," Dee told the PCCI North Luzon area conference here on Friday.

Left to the devices of the current contractor, the government would be issued a rehabilitated yet antiquated railway system that would be Metro Manila's first train gateway from Caloocan City to Malolos City in Bulacan, Dee said.

The government's decision to allow the Chinese firm to improve the existing rails of the Philippine National Railways and to relocate 83,000 squatter families along the MacArthur Highway to Norzagaray town in Bulacan "could be fatal to the country," he said.

Dee said the P200-billion deficit that has plagued the government has made it vulnerable to Official Development Assistance projects, where foreign donors dictate who to hire as contractors or consultants.

The Chinese loan agreement gives the contractor the right to hire its own agents, he said.

He said the relocation of squatter families alone would be "bloody" because the government had been unable to provide livelihood and basic necessities in relocation areas.

"But it is a fact that this is a big loan which ticks me off," he said. "Why do we need to spend P1 billion for each kilometer when the Clark to Subic Expressway project designed 92 km (of a 60 meter wide road stretch) for less than P850 million. This is cheaper. Why borrow money again?" *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, September 25, 2004
25th Week in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Ecl 11:9-12:8
Gospel: Lk 9:43-45

While all were amazed at everything Jesus did, he said to his disciples, "Listen and remember what I tell you now: The Son of Man will be delivered into human hands." But the disciples didn't understand this saying; something prevented them from grasping what he meant, and they were afraid to ask him about it.

Commentary

"Something prevented them from grasping what he meant." It's always "something" when we don't understand it, or want to understand it, or even want to look at it. Fear makes us look away—which is the early stage of running away. If we could just look, we might not be so afraid. "They were afraid to ask him." Why? Was he not their friend? Why were they afraid of him? No, they were not afraid of him; they were afraid that what he was saying was true, and they didn't want to hear it.

"There's no need to be afraid of the truth," we were often told as children. There's every reason! In fact there's no reason to be afraid of anything else. To lie is to look away from the truth, because I'm afraid of it. Lies are evasions for the sake of comfort. Lies are afraid of nothing so much as the truth, because it has power to destroy them. "The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light..." (Jn 3:19). "Are you afraid of the dark?" "No, I'm afraid of the light!"

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (DANGEROUS DRUGS)—Elements of the crime of illegal possession of prohibited drugs—The elements of this offense are the following: (1) the accused is in possession of an item or object, which is identified to be a prohibited drug; (2) such possession is not authorized by law; and (3) the accused freely and consciously possessed the drug. In this case, the third requisite was not convincingly established by the prosecution. Thus, the charge of illegal possession of prohibited drugs was not established beyond reasonable doubt. In a prosecution for the sale of dangerous drugs, it is material and indispensable (1) to prove that the accused sold and delivered the prohibited drug to another, as well as to present in court the corpus delicti as evidence; and (2) to prove that the accused knew that what was sold and delivered was a dangerous drug. The attempt to sell the drugs may be established by overt acts showing that the accused knowingly commenced the commission of the crime. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, First Division, People vs Balag-ey, G. R. No. 141532, April 14, 2004] BY R. B. VERA

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Gerardo Casuga	Bacoor Cavite	2nd PRIZE Hifi Mini Component
Januel Untalan	Makati City,	3rd PRIZE Playstation 2
Fides Libo-On	Manila	3rd PRIZE Playstation 2
Jaime Teodisio	Bacoor Cavite	4th PRIZE Sony Clie w/Digicam
Alexandro Alabado	Iloilo	4th PRIZE Sony Clie w/Digicam
Narciso Arceno	Marilao Bulacan	5th PRIZE Cybershot Digital Camera
Jaybee Mari B. Cruz	Las Pinas City	5th PRIZE Cybershot Digital Camera
Garneth Lim	Quezon City	5th PRIZE Cybershot Digital Camera
Florence Ong	Mandaue City	5th PRIZE Cybershot Digital Camera
Arlene Sangrador	Makati City	6th PRIZE CD Walkman
John Campos	Quezon City.	6th PRIZE CD Walkman
Joseph C. Demiao	Lapu-Lapu City	6th PRIZE CD Walkman
Buenaventura Lim	Cavite	6th PRIZE CD Walkman
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PHILIPPINE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Defining Dermatology in the Philippines

NOVEMBER 8, 1952 is a historical day. It was a turning point for a handful of Filipino doctors practicing Dermatology. As such, the Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS) came into being. The pioneering group with a passion for Dermatology was composed of physicians excelling in their own fields in their respective medical institutions, mostly the University of the Philippines and the University of Santo Tomas. A couple of years later, Dermatology was recognized as a medical specialty by the prestigious Philippine Medical Association (PMA). PDS became the specialty society for dermatology.

As on its day of baptism into the PMA, the Philippine Dermatological Society has remained zealous of its mission-vision for the past fifty-two years. Indeed, "to lead in the attainment of healthy skin for all Filipinos through its service, training and research activities" has remained the driving force behind the PDS. Specific to the objectives of the Society are the enhancement of public awareness on the prevention of skin diseases and the competent, ethical and professional practice of Dermatology by its certified members. In supporting these thrusts, regular learning venues are afforded its members including scholarships and fellowship grants. Researches are regularly conducted and published.

In recent years, the PDS has intensified its efforts in health advocacy through more popular forms of media, particularly print, radio, television and the internet. Through these undertakings, the public is made aware of the proper care of the skin and its appendages, as well as common skin diseases with emphasis on their prevention. Articles written by the members themselves were published as the PDS Skin FAQs in national broadsheets, "Know Your Skin" column in *Manila Bulletin*, contributions in the health section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Health and Lifestyle magazine, the medical publication *MDAsia*, and "Expert Advice: Ask a Dermatologist" in *Mirror Magazine*. In 1999, the official website of the PDS was established as www.pds.org.ph, which has continued to serve the goal of local and international communication. It contains the Society's history, objectives, calendar of activities, news bulletin, membership directory, Journal of the PDS, an outstanding patient information section, and links to other pertinent websites.

The Skin, Hair and Nail Health Education Program (SKINHELP) was launched in 1999 through an educational grant from Johnson and Johnson, Philippines. Nine health information leaflets were produced and lectures in barangay health centers and secondary schools were conducted. SKINHELP also provided partial support for researches in training institutions and continuing medical education for the members. The program was recognized by the PMA as the "Best Project by an Affiliate Society" in May 2002. In 2003, a Hair Loss Information Campaign was also begun with an educational grant from Merck Sharp & Dohme.

These undertakings also served as venues to define the specialty that is *Dermatology* and the specialist who is a *Dermatologist*. Dermatologists are not made by attending three- or four-day conventions. Rigorous three-year residency training in a PDS-accredited institution is a prerequisite. The training institutions offer exposure to various subspecialties within Dermatology. Facilities in dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology, immunodermatology, pediatric dermatology, and phototherapy are required. All these, along with numerous patients serviced, equip PDS trainees with the appropriate knowledge and skills to deal with various skin problems. Emphasis has been steadfastly placed on continuing medical education (CME), with the Society holding regular monthly scientific meetings. For members in the Visayas and Mindanao regions who cannot attend such gatherings in Manila, the Southern Philippine Chapter was created to facilitate their own CME meetings.

A DERMATOLOGIST

. . . is first and foremost a physician and is therefore mandated to be the model of the highest moral and ethical values.

. . . should practice the art of healing based on recognized medical science.

. . . should provide patients with a reasonable explanation of the etiology, treatment and prognosis of their disease

. . . should provide competent medical and dermatological service with dedication, compassion, and respect for human dignity.

(Excerpts from the Philippine Dermatological Society Code of Ethics)

In addition, an annual convention has been held each year since 1974. Occurring during the Society's foundation month in November, this scientific assembly has become an avenue, not only for exchanging knowledge and experiences between local and international dermatology experts, but for fostering camaraderie and unity among members as well. Every ten years, the PDS also plays host to and organizes the Regional Conference of Dermatology which rotates among the five-member nations of the League of the ASEAN Dermatological Societies.

The National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week (SKINWEEK) is held every second week of November under the auspices of the PDS as per Proclamation No. 110 by President Macapagal-Arroyo. The primary objectives of SKINWEEK are to encourage self-examination of the skin for early detection of cutaneous diseases and to promote proper skin care as a preventive measure. Numerous activities such as free clinics and lectures at barangay health centers and secondary schools in key cities nationwide are conducted by the Society during the week-long celebration.

The PDS cooperates with both local and international health groups for the provision of more comprehensive health care services. In 2001, the Society participated with other medical societies in preparing the Guidelines on Periodic Health Examination with the Philippine College of Physicians, and the Philippine Clinical Practice Guidelines for Genital Ulcers and Anogenital Warts with the Philippine Society of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. The Society also has representation in the Council of the Osteoporosis Society of the Philippines and in the Venous Forum of the Philippines. Internationally, the PDS has been a voting member of the International League of Dermatological Societies since 1962. For many years now, the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), the largest organization of dermatologists worldwide, courses its international scholarships and travel grants through the PDS.

The Society actively supports the Department of Health by participating in the National Leprosy Control Program and the review of the National Drug Formulary. Through the pursuit of the PDS and in cooperation with the DOH and the Philippine Leprosy Mission, the National Leprosy Week was once again celebrated on February 17-21, 2003 to highlight public awareness. The PDS organized a project on Leprosy with the theme, "Leprosy: Towards Elimination and Rehabilitation." All accredited hospitals display information about the disease. Lectures are conducted to patients and family members. A continuing examination of public school children is made to screen for possible disease. To date, seven schools in Makati and 300 Ifugao children have been examined with a few noted to be afflicted. Yearly workshops are organized with foreign and local speakers. Attendance in this seminar became a requirement for residency training in Dermatology. This project won in May 2004 as "Best Project of an Affiliate Society" during the PMA 101st annual celebration.

The beginning of the 21st century, in 2003, marked a milestone in PDS history — its unification with the Philippine Society of Cutaneous Medicine, another affiliated society for dermatology by PMA. With full forces combined, the pillars of the present Philippine Dermatological Society are strengthened evermore. Indeed, a half-century of dedication and progress have brought the Philippine Dermatological Society to the point in the local and international arena where it is accepted and recognized for its accomplishments in defining the specialty of dermatology in the Philippines.

PDS- ACCREDITED TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital
University of Santo Tomas
University of the East-Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center
Jose R.Reyes Memorial Medical Center
East Avenue Medical Center
Makati Medical Center
Research Institute of Tropical Medicine
Skin and Cancer Foundation, Inc.
Davao Medical Center
Ospital ng Maynila

Historical. Unique. Special.

These words will mark the Philippine Dermatological Society's 28th Annual Convention on November 9-12, 2004. This will be the first annual convention after the historical unification of the Philippine Dermatological Society and the Philippine Society of Cutaneous Medicine. In the past, these two dermatological societies would successfully hold their conventions separately and for a couple of times joined forces under the banner of "Philippine League of Dermatologists".

An impressive line-up of foreign and local speakers is slated to give lectures and workshops during the two-day convention proper and the immediate pre-convention period. This year's major event offers a Leprosy Forum, Pediatric Dermatology Course, Laser and Dermatologic Surgery Workshop. The wide variety of topics will suit the special needs of today's challenging dermatological concerns.

Philippine Dermatological Society

5th

National Skin Disease Detection and PreventionWeek

November 7 -13, 2004

28th PDS Annual Convention
2nd PDS Leprosy Forum
Pediatric Dermatology Workshop
Laser and Dermatologic Surgery Workshop
12th Annual Residents' Research Forum
National Support Association for Psoriasis Patients, Inc - 2nd General Assembly
Nationwide Lectures on Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair & Nails
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VENERACION, MARY JOSEPHINE (FELLOW)
VERALLO-ROWELL, VERMEN (FELLOW)
VILLAR, IMELDA (FELLOW)

MALABON
RODRIGUEZ, DANILO (FELLOW)
RODRIGUEZ, VIOLETA (DIPLOMATE)

MANDALUYONG
ARCILLA, BERNADETTE (FELLOW)
BORJA, ARMINDA (FELLOW)
CASANOVA, CECILIA (FELLOW)
COLENDRINO, ROSINNA (FELLOW)
CRUZ, MA. ISABEL (FELLOW)
DIAZ, MA. TOOTSIE (FELLOW)
JACILDO, MA. CHRISTINA (FELLOW)
JORGE, GUIA THERESE (FELLOW)
PALMERO, MA. LOURDES (FELLOW)
TAN, LEAH LUNA (FELLOW)
TAN, MARY ALDRENE (DIPLOMATE)
TORRES, GENEVIEVE (FELLOW)

MUNTINLUPA
AGUILAR, AISSA CELESTE (FELLOW)
AGUILAR, AIVEE (FELLOW)
BERNARDO, OLGA (FELLOW)
CHAN, GERTRUDE (FELLOW)
CHAN, HEIDI (DIPLOMATE)
DE GALICIA, ROSEMARY (FELLOW)
GULOY, NOEMI (FELLOW)
HONRADO, ELSIE (FELLOW)
ROCES, MAY ROSE (DIPLOMATE)
SENADOR, LEILANI (FELLOW)
TABLANTE, ELY (FELLOW)
TRANQUILINO, EDNA MAY (FELLOW)
ZAMORA, LUCITA (AFFILIATE)

MANILA
ALEJANDRINO, ROSARIO (DIPLOMATE)
BALAY, CATHERINE (DIPLOMATE)
BAUTISTA, DESIREE (DIPLOMATE)
BERNABE, ESMERALDA (ASSOCIATE)
BUÑAG, FILIPINO PABLITO (FELLOW)
CARPIO, BENEDICT (FELLOW)
CASTILLO, FLORENCE (FELLOW)
CEBRIAN, PORTIA (DIPLOMATE)
CHAO, MARY BELLY (FELLOW)
CHIONG, MA. CARMINA (DIPLOMATE)
CUBILLAN, EILEEN LIESL (FELLOW)
CUMAGUN, MA. ANGELA (FELLOW)
DIZON, MA. VICTORIA (FELLOW)
ESTRADA, KATTY (FELLOW)
GUILLERMO, MA. ROSARIO (FELLOW)
HANDOG, EVANGELINE (FELLOW)
ISMAEL, DAISY (FELLOW)
JAO-TAN, CINDY (DIPLOMATE)
LEDDA, MICHELLE ANGELINE (FELLOW)
LEE, ELIZABETH (FELLOW)
LIM KE, MARITA (FELLOW)
LIM, ROSARIO (FELLOW)
LIM, VALENTIN (FELLOW)
LLADO, CONCEPCION (ASSOCIATE)
LOPEZ, MILAGROS (FELLOW)
LOPEZ, SANDRA (FELLOW)
LUZURIAGA, AURORA MONINA (FELLOW)
MAAÑO, CLARITA (FELLOW)
MAGNO, ELSA (DIPLOMATE)
MALIXI, JOEL (FELLOW)
MALLARI, MA. RICA (FELLOW)
MARCELINO, MERCEDITA (FELLOW)
MARQUEZ, ANTONIO (FELLOW)
MEDINA, ELY (FELLOW)
MONSANTO, ELMA (FELLOW)
MORALES, EILEEN (FELLOW)
ONG, BERNICE ELAINE (DIPLOMATE)
ONG, VINCENT LUIS JESUS (FELLOW)
PALIZA, ARNELFA (FELLOW)
PANGAN, SHIELA (FELLOW)
PILE, CARMINDA (FELLOW)
POBLETE, ANGELITO (FELLOW)
QUE, EMILIE (FELLOW)
REBURIANO, AUXILIADORA (FELLOW)
ROA, FRANCISCA (FELLOW)
SALVADOR, SUSANNAH (FELLOW)
SANTOS, MARIETTA (FELLOW)
SIBAL, LEONILA (FELLOW)
SOLIVEN, MARIDEL (DIPLOMATE)
STA. ANA, LOURDES (FELLOW)
TAM, MARILYN (ASSOCIATE)
TAN, CYNTHIA (FELLOW)
TAN, JESUSA (FELLOW)
TAN, MARILOU (FELLOW)
TAN, SUSAN (DIPLOMATE)
TIANCO, ELIZABETH AMELIA V. (FELLOW)
TOLENTINO, JOSE RUEL (FELLOW)
TORRALBA-MARCELO, MA. CECILIA (FELLOW)
TORRALBA, LINA (FELLOW)
THAEBTHARM, AGNES (FELLOW)
VALMONTE-ALABANZA, PATRICIA (FELLOW)
VILLAFUERTE, LILLIAN (FELLOW)
WONG, JENNIFER (FELLOW)
YU, JONATHAN NEVIN (FELLOW)
YU, NELLY (FELLOW)

MARIKINA
BAYSA, JOSEPHINE (FELLOW)
BUENVIAJE, ROSARY THERESE (FELLOW)
CRUZ, MARCELLANO (FELLOW)
LINA, MA. THERESA CANDIDA (FELLOW)
RODRIGUEZ, MARICHRIST (FELLOW)
SALIPSIP, CHERRY ROSE (DIPLOMATE)
TAIRA, MIRLA (FELLOW)
VENERACION, MA. THERESA (DIPLOMATE)

PARAÑAQUE
ANG, JEANNIE (FELLOW)
ARANAS, AGNES (FELLOW)
ATACADOR, JOYCE (DIPLOMATE)
CASTILLO, ALEXANDER (DIPLOMATE)
DABAO, MA. MELISSA PASION (DIPLOMATE)
FABIAN, GAY LORETTO (FELLOW)
FRANCISCO, MA TERESA (FELLOW)
GABRIEL, MA.TERESITA (FELLOW)
HINLO, LEILANI (FELLOW)
MARCELO, MARICAR JASMIN (FELLOW)
MORADA, MA. GINA (FELLOW)
OBLEPIAS, MARIE SOCOUER (FELLOW)
ORDOÑEZ, LUIS ANGEL (FELLOW)
SALVADOR, JANE ELIZA (DIPLOMATE)
SURATOS, LOVERNA (FELLOW)
UGALDE, IMELDA (FELLOW)
UGALDE, REYNALDO (FELLOW)

PASAY
AMURAO, CRISTINE VILLENA (DIPLOMATE)
CLAUDIO, MARICRIS (FELLOW)
FERRARIZ, TERESITA (FELLOW)
REYES, TERESITA (FELLOW)
TOLENTINO, ELENA (FELLOW)
YANG, ANGELITO (FELLOW)
YANG, MARICHU (FELLOW)

PASIG
ARAMBULO, JULIETA (FELLOW)
AVIGUETERO, MA. TERESA (FELLOW)
BALAGAT, ROGELIO (DIPLOMATE)
BARASI, GLADYS (FELLOW)
BISUNA, BLANCA (FELLOW)
CABRERA, ALLEN (DIPLOMATE)
CARDONES, ADELA RAMBI (DIPLOMATE)
CRISOSTOMO, SELWYN (FELLOW)
DIAZ, MA. JENINA (DIPLOMATE)
DIMAYUGA, MARY ELIZABETH (FELLOW)
ESGUERRA, ELVIRA (FELLOW)
GONZAGA, EVELYN (FELLOW)
JARIN-DUMOL, MICHELLE MARIE (FELLOW)
LAGANDAON, GERALDINE (FELLOW)
LAUREL, ARJORIE (DIPLOMATE)
MARTINEZ, RHESA MAY (FELLOW)
NAZAL, ISABEL (FELLOW)
NUÑEZ, IRMA (FELLOW)
OBIETA, MA. YOLANDA (FELLOW)
OBLIGACION, EVELYN (FELLOW)
PALABYAB, CLARA ANN (FELLOW)
PALABYAB, EFREN (FELLOW)
PINEDA, BEATRICE CORINA (FELLOW)
PLAZA, MARGARITA (FELLOW)
PUYAT, CRISTINA (FELLOW)
RIVERA, FRANCISCO IV (FELLOW)
ROSALES, CYNTHIA (FELLOW)
ROSETE, CECILIA (FELLOW)
SISON, MICHELLE (FELLOW)
TAN, EDGAR (FELLOW)
TANTIONGCO, PIO (FELLOW)
YANG, DORIS (DIPLOMATE)
YANG, GILBERT (FELLOW)

QUEZON CITY
ABELLO, MARIA VERONICA (DIPLOMATE)
ABRAHAM, ERNA RAFAELA (FELLOW)
AGUILA, GLADYS (DIPLOMATE)
ALBERTO, NENITA (FELLOW)
AQUINO, MARIA LUZ GUYTINGCO (FELLOW)
AQUINO, MARIJEAN (FELLOW)
ARCEGA, DEEJAY (FELLOW)
ARCILLA, JUANITA (FELLOW)
BAELLO, EDNA (FELLOW)
BANAYO, CHARLEEN (FELLOW)
BARLIN, ESPERANZA (FELLOW)
BAUTISTA-DIZON, AENELLE (FELLOW)
BELTRAN, GRACE CAROLE (FELLOW)
BINCE, BENJAMIN (FELLOW)
BLAS, ROSARIO (FELLOW)
BORMATE, ADOLFO JR. (DIPLOMATE)
CAPARAS, CYNTHIA (FELLOW)
CARMONA, MA. THERESA (FELLOW)
CARPIO, CAROLINA (FELLOW)
CASINTAHAN, MA. FLORDELIZ (FELLOW)
CATALUNA, MARIA ISABEL (DIPLOMATE)
CIFRA, AGNES (FELLOW)
CHUA, BERNADETTE (FELLOW)
CHUA, NATIVIDAD SANDRA (FELLOW)
CORTEZ, NORA (FELLOW)
CRUZ, JOSEFINA (ASSOCIATE)
CRUZ, MA. MERCEDES (FELLOW)
CRUZ, MA. REGINA EUGENIO (DIPLOMATE)
CRUZ, MICHELLE DENISE (FELLOW)
CUA, JACQUELINE (FELLOW)
CUISON, NOEMI TIO (DIPLOMATE)
DAGUINSIN, RACELLE DIVINA (DIPLOMATE)
DELA CRUZ, MARIA DULCE (DIPLOMATE)
DEL MORAL, RINA (FELLOW)
DELOS REYES, GRACE (FELLOW)
DE OCAMPO, CHITTINA (DIPLOMATE)
DE VEYRA, THOMAS RAYMOND (FELLOW)
DIZON, JONATHAN FELICIANO (FELLOW)
DOFITAS, BELEN (FELLOW)
DUCULAN, JUDILYN (DIPLOMATE)
DUQUE, CAROLINA (FELLOW)
DY, MA. LEILANI (FELLOW)
ENCARNACION, LONABEL (FELLOW)
ESTRELLA, MA. VERONICA (FELLOW)
EUSEBIO, MARICOR (FELLOW)
FALCONI, ELENA (FELLOW)
FAVORITO, MARIELLE (FELLOW)
FERNANDEZ, DIVINA (FELLOW)
FERRER, LUCILLE SABRINA (FELLOW)
FLOREZA, ELSIE REYNOSA (FELLOW)
FREZ, MA. LORNA FERNANDEZ (FELLOW)
FUGOSO, GLENDA (FELLOW)
GARCIA, ANGELI (FELLOW)
GARCIA, CAROLINE (FELLOW)
GARCIA, VIFEL (ASSOCIATE)
GONZALES, JOANNE (FELLOW)
GONZALEZ, THELMA (FELLOW)
GUZMAN, EVYLINA (FELLOW)
HALAGO, LOLITA (FELLOW)
HAMADA, CONTESSA LOUISE (DIPLOMATE)
ILAGAN, MADELEINE (FELLOW)
ILAO, ENRICO ANTONIO (FELLOW)
INGLES, ESTER CECILIA (FELLOW)
JIAO, NELIZZA BEATRIZ (DIPLOMATE)
LACUESTA, MA. NANETTE (FELLOW)
LAT, MA. KATHERINA (FELLOW)
LAVADIA, MA. ANGELA (FELLOW)
LAZARO, MELISSA PERPETUA (DIPLOMATE)
LEVERIZA, ROSANNA MARIA (FELLOW)
LINTAG, LEONCIA (FELLOW)
LOGARTA, MA. CORAZON (ASSOCIATE)
LEUENBERGER, MA. PILAR (FELLOW)
MACAM, MONINA (FELLOW)
MANALO, MARY CAROLINE EILEEN (FELLOW)
MARCELO, MARILYN (FELLOW)
MEDEL, RUTH (FELLOW)
MEDINA, AMELIA (FELLOW)
MELGAR, BARTOLOME MURDOCK (FELLOW)
NADELA, ROSALINA (FELLOW)
NAVA, HELENA LOUISE (FELLOW)
NEBRIDA, MA. LOURDES ANNA (FELLOW)
NICOL, LETICIA (ASSOCIATE)
NICOLAS, HAIDEE (FELLOW)
NICOLAS, RIZAELA (FELLOW)
NOGRALES, KRISTINE (DIPLOMATE)
OCTAVIANO, ROSANNA (FELLOW)
ONGJOCO, CECILIA (FELLOW)
ORTIZ, MARIANO (FELLOW)
PABICO, JULIE (FELLOW)
PANGANIBAN, RHODA (FELLOW)
PARAISO, JOYCE (FELLOW)
PASCUAL, MA. TERESA (DIPLOMATE)
PASTOR, REGINA (FELLOW)
PECACHE, JOSEFINA (FELLOW)
PECACHE, MA. RIZA (FELLOW)
PELINO, VILMA (FELLOW)
PERALEJO, BELLE (FELLOW)
PLAZA, MARGARET (FELLOW)
PORTUGAL, PEARLIE (FELLOW)
PRIETO, ELIZABETH (FELLOW)
RAMIREZ, MA. ANNABELLE TOLEDO (DIPLOMATE)
RAMOS, CECILIA (ASSOCIATE)
REARIO, EMMA (FELLOW)
REYES, CARMELA (FELLOW)
REYES, CRISTINA REGINA (FELLOW)
REYES, MA VICTORIA (FELLOW)
REYES, RUBY PAZ (FELLOW)
REYES, TERESITA (FELLOW)
RIVERA, VIRGINIA (FELLOW)
ROSARIO, MARIE SUZZETTE (FELLOW)
SALGADO, GERARD (ASSOCIATE)
SALONGA, CAROL (ASSOCIATE)
SAMONTE, CLAUDIA (FELLOW)
SAMSON, EUGENIA (ASSOCIATE)
SANDEJAS, MA. MELISSA (FELLOW)
SANTOS, MA. KATHERINE (FELLOW)
SIBAYAN, JONI CLAIRE (FELLOW)
SY, CRISTABEL (FELLOW)
SY, SALLY (FELLOW)
TAN, DEANA DOLORES (DIPLOMATE)
TAN, VIVIAN GRACE (FELLOW)
TANGLAO, AMELITA (FELLOW)
TANTUCO, IVAN (FELLOW)
TORRES, MILALI (FELLOW)
TUNGOL, GRACE (FELLOW)
UYGONGCO, ELIZABETH (FELLOW)
VELUZ, SIMEON (DIPLOMATE)
VENIDA, MA. LUISA (FELLOW)
VERSOZA, MIA ANGELA (FELLOW)
VILLANUEVA, JOSEPHINE (FELLOW)
VILLARAMA-CELLONA, CLARISSA (DIPLOMATE)
WONG, ELENA (FELLOW)
WONG, GWENDOLYN (FELLOW)
YANG, MARJORIE FRANCES (DIPLOMATE)
YU, ARNOLD. (FELLOW)
YULDE, ANGELITA (ASSOCIATE)

VALENZUELA
IGNACIO, KATHERINE FRANCES (FELLOW)
HERRERA, MAE GERALDINE (FELLOW)
LACAY, GEMMA (FELLOW)
ONG, CHARMAINE (FELLOW)
RAMOS, NOEMI (FELLOW)

PATEROS
GONZALES, ESMER (FELLOW)

SAN JUAN
ANGELES, CAMILLE (DIPLOMATE)
APACIBLE, MICHELLE (FELLOW)
CASTAÑEDA, SUZETTE (FELLOW)
CASTILLO, MARY CHARMAINE (FELLOW)
CHAN, BLOSSOM (FELLOW)
CHONG, CATHERINE (DIPLOMATE)
CHUNG, ABELYNN (FELLOW)
CUASO, JUDY (FELLOW)
GARCIA-TAN, NANCY (FELLOW)
GATAN, PAULA EDNA (ASSOCIATE)
HUANG, SYLVIA (FELLOW)
LETRAN, ELEANOR (FELLOW)
LORENZO, MA.THERESA (FELLOW)
ORTIZ, JOSEPH (FELLOW)
PASTORFIDE, GEORGINA (FELLOW)
QUE, JASMIN ESTHER (FELLOW)
RAMISCAL, MA. DEANNA SANTOS (DIPLOMATE)
ROMERO, ROBERTA (FELLOW)
ROXAS, MARIA ZENAIDA (FELLOW)
STA. MARIA, MARINA (FELLOW)
TY, GRACE (FELLOW)
YAP, MA. VERONICA (FELLOW)

REGION VI (Wertern Visayas)

AKLAN
LIM, BERNADETTE (ASSOCIATE)

CAPIZ
DASAL, MA. PURIFICACION (FELLOW)

ILOILO
BELICENA, MA. HENEDINA (FELLOW)
CEJAR, EMMA (FELLOW)
CELIS, MAROVI (FELLOW)
DOFITAS, ELVIE ARIETE (FELLOW)
JAENA, NILDA (ASSOCIATE)
MONTERO, AILEEN ADELA (FELLOW)
UY, CARMELA WENDY (FELLOW)

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
ELEGADO, REMELEE JANET (FELLOW)
EUSEBIO, MA. ROSARIO (FELLOW)
JISON, ANA MARIE (ASSOCIATE)
MONTILLA, ANGELINA (FELLOW)
VILLANUEVA, DEBBIE (FELLOW)

REGION VII (Central Visayas)

BOHOL
SOMBRIO, JAMES (DIPLOMATE)

CEBU
ALQUISALAS, JULIETA (AFFILIATE)
CABAHUG, MA. ANTOINETTE (DIPLOMATE)
CAÑETE, ROSARIO (FELLOW)
CELLONA, ROLAND VESTIL (FELLOW)
FAJARDO,JR., TRANQUILINO (FELLOW)
GO, DIVINA (FELLOW)
MABALAY, MARIO (FELLOW)
MANGUBAT, PEDRO (AFFILIATE)
MORALES, CYNTHIA (FELLOW)
ONG, MARILOU (FELLOW)
ORDOÑEZ, DELFIN III (ASSOCIATE)
PANGAN, MARIA TERESA (FELLOW)
RAMOS, EVE THERESE (FELLOW)
URGEL, CYNTHIA (FELLOW)
VERALLO, VICENTE JO (FELLOW)

NEGROS ORIENTAL
BORROMEO, ESTRELLA (FELLOW)
TEVES, SHIREEN (FELLOW)

REGION IX (Zamboanga Peninsula)

ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR
RUSTE-CHAN, ANNA LISA (FELLOW)
RAMIREZ, LEILANI (FELLOW)

REGION X (Northern Mindanao)

LANAO DEL NORTE
MONTELIBANO, MARIANNE (DIPLOMATE)

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL
YBO, RODELLA (FELLOW)

MISAMIS ORIENTAL
ALVAREZ, ANTOINETTE YEE (FELLOW)
APOSTOL, KAIRHUN (FELLOW)
CAUMBAN, CRISTY MARIE (FELLOW)
DELA PAZ, ANA LUCIA (FELLOW)
MELICOR, CECILLE (FELLOW)
MERCADO, JADE (FELLOW)
PIMENTEL, MA. LINA (FELLOW)
RAÑIN, RENATO (FELLOW)

REGION XI (Davao Region)

DAVAO DEL SUR
ALABADO, KAREN LEE (FELLOW)
BELISARIO, MA. PACITA (FELLOW)
CAUILAN, MERCEDES (FELLOW)
GLORIA, RIZA (FELLOW)
GUILLANO, VICTORIA (DIPLOMATE)
JIMENEZ, CLARIBEL (FELLOW)
KHO, JORGE JR. (FELLOW)
LAGDA, LEO (DIPLOMATE)
MANGAOIL, LESLEY JAMES (ASSOCIATE)
MENDOZA, SHERILL ANN (DIPLOMATE)
OROPEZA, NEIL (FELLOW)
PACHECO, CARLOS (FELLOW)
SERRANO, MA. ASSUMPTA (FELLOW)
SORIANO, EMILY (FELLOW)
VISITACION, LALAINE (FELLOW)

REGION XII (Socsargen)

COTABATO
APOSTOL, SISENO (ASSOCIATE)
EVANGELISTA, ROWENA (FELLOW)

SOUTHERN COTABATO
BANDOLON-VILLANUEVA, MICHELLE (FELLOW)
CALDERON, DINA (FELLOW)
CASTILLO, CONCEPCION IMELDA (FELLOW)

REGION XIII (Caraga)

AGUSAN DEL NORTE
CUSTODIO, MARITESS (FELLOW)

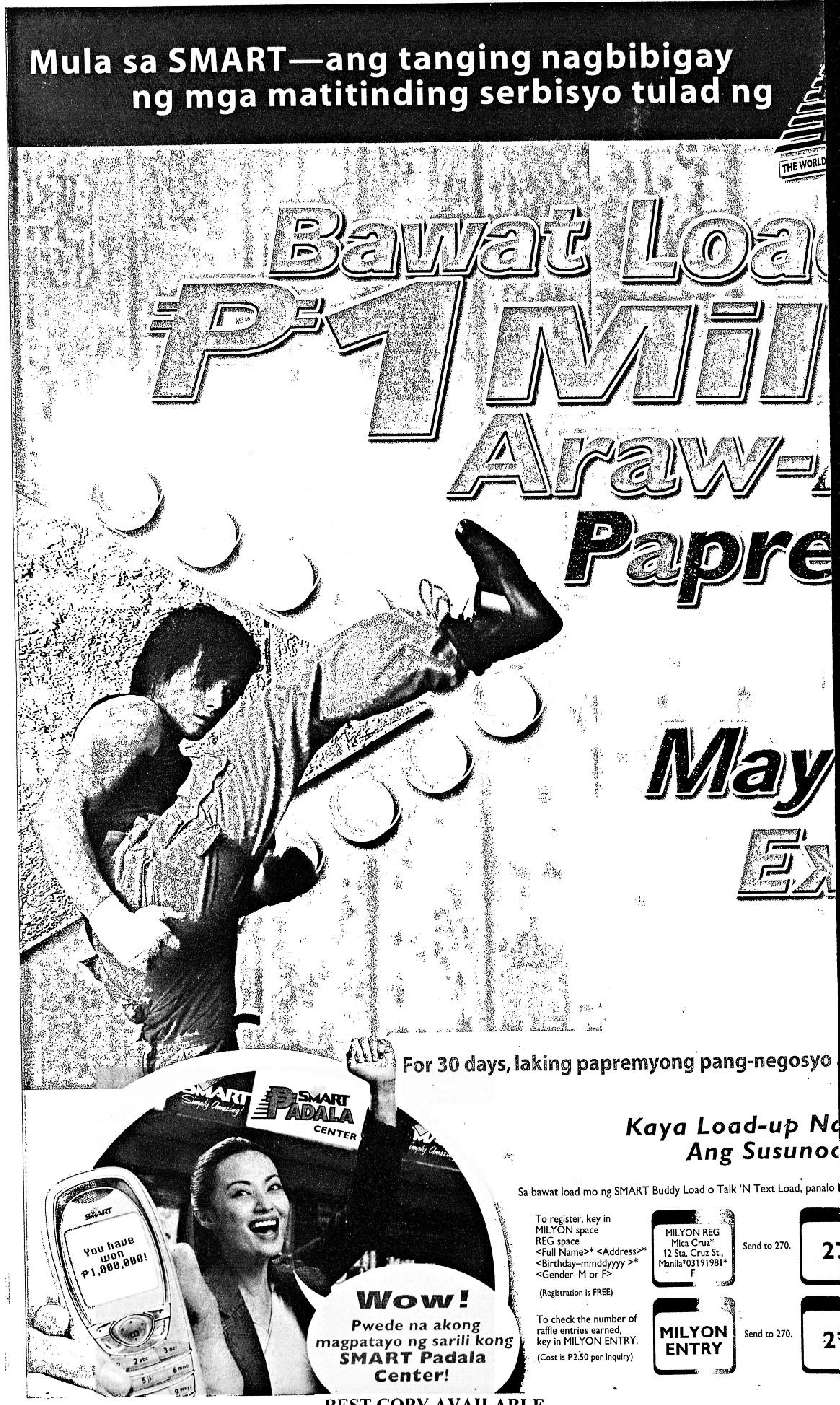
SURIGAO DEL NORTE
RESURRECCION, BENNET (DIPLOMATE)

FELLOW – *Passed the diplomate exam and has been a member of good standing for 2 years or more.*

DIPLOMATE – *Passed the diplomate exam and has been a member of good standing for less than 2 years.*

ASSOCIATE – *Trained in an accredited training institution and is board-eligible.*

AFFILIATE – *Partial training in dermatology but has been in practice in dermatology for several years.*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REG space
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<Gender–M or F>

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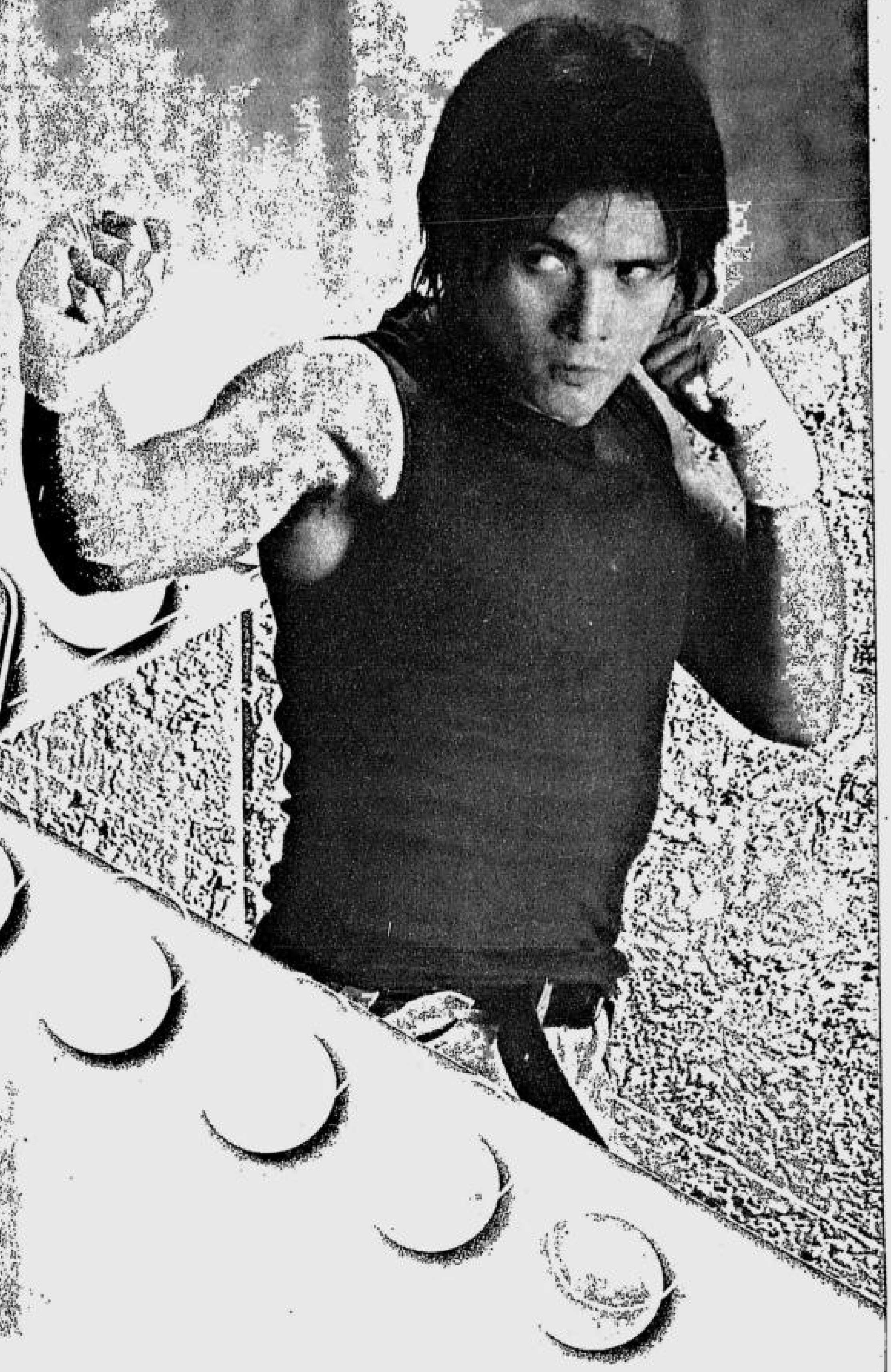

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Php 60	₱ 6.00	3 entries
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OPINION

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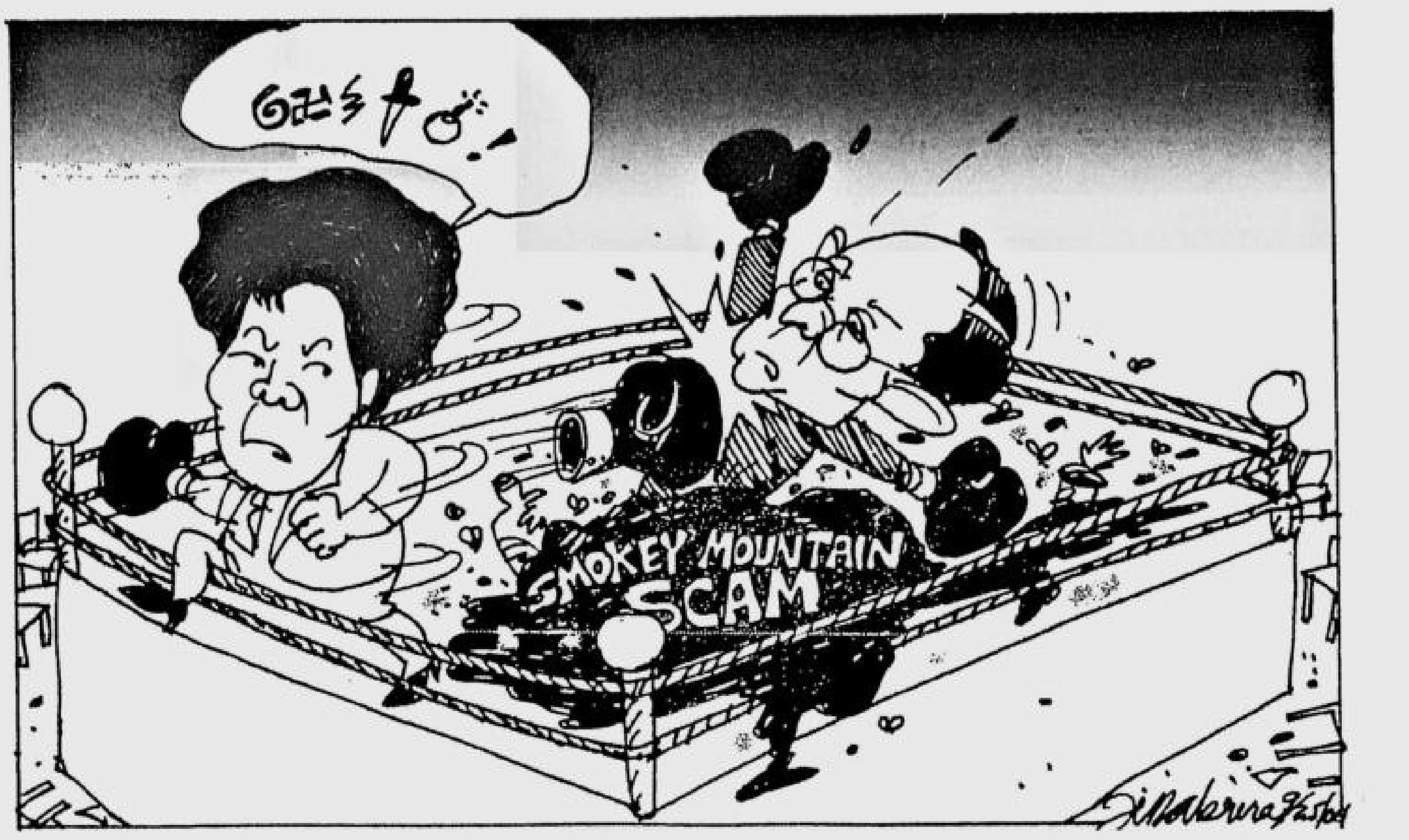

Dawn

EDITORIAL

SOUTHEAST Asia's oldest democracy, the Philippines, can only look on in envy as a democratic dawn breaks in one of the region's newest democracies, Indonesia.

We are a country that has been holding local elections since 1905 and national elections since 1935, and yet today it takes longer to count votes than ever before—and that is, if we're even sure the votes get counted at all. What our 80 million people or so can't seem to do despite so much practice, the Indonesians have managed, even though this year marks the first time ever Indonesians have had a direct hand in electing their president. The other day, an op-ed piece in the Jakarta Post confidently proclaimed that Monday's runoff election "marks the day when elite politics finally died, six years after the Reformasi dealt it a mortal blow."

"Reformasi" is the Indonesian term for the process of democratization that began in 1998, with the fall of the dictator Suharto after massive protests rocked the nation. The apparatus of the dictatorship crumbled, but a lack of leadership failed to fill the political vacuum left by the disgrace of the longtime ruler of the world's biggest Islamic country. The Golkar party of Suharto failed to prop up his successor. Then Megawati Sukarnoputri's Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle came into power but in the eyes of analysts it seemed to be more concerned with replacing the Suharto-era elite with the old elite of Sukarno days. It seemed for a time that the only groups with new ideas were the many fundamentalist religious parties that sprouted.

But something interesting has happened in Indonesia. As the author of the op-ed piece, Ong Hock Chuan, put it, "The mirror cracked further for the political elites during the general elections... Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's star began to rise. That a single man, with a military past, little support and a spanking new party could garner nearly 10 percent of the votes should have sent warning signals to the political elites."

The elite didn't listen. Yudhuyono went straight to the people, touring the country, placing ads, mounting a campaign all too familiar perhaps to Filipinos but quite breathtaking in its directness to Indonesians. What's more, Yudhuyono concentrated on courting the public instead of making back room deals, something as spectacularly new to Indonesians as it would be to Filipinos.

The party in power, and the incumbent, Megawati, kept making backroom deals, ignoring the straight-to-the-people campaign of the leading contender. The warning signs were there from the first round of the Indonesian presidential polls. The professional politicians ignored the warnings. Yudhuyono won.

Could it be, that "people power a la Indonesia is here to stay," as Ong put it? For Filipinos, it may seem a bit corny that a new era of genuine democracy is being talked about on the basis of a national election finally featuring direct campaigning and the courting of public opinion. Public opinion as a motive force in Philippine politics has been the case since 1922, when the Nacionalista Party split between those who wanted party decisions decided by party elders, while others wanted the party to depend—and court—public opinion.

Whatever happens, though, the fact is that late as it may be in coming, a new dawn has come in Indonesian politics. Once things like public opinion and direct campaigning are proven to work, they become an essential part of the political system. It is tempting for Filipinos to chuckle that we have seen all of this before, and that things can always be reversed. Maybe so. But it does warm the heart to see a nation blooming with the democratic spirit.

It is time for us to take a closer look at our Malay neighbors, the closest blood brothers we have in our region: Indonesia and Malaysia. Both are taking steps toward strengthening and widening their democracy. While we may lack the resources, primarily oil, that help these nations stay afloat, we have our overseas workers serving much the same economic purpose.

The fact that Filipino terms such as "people power" still resonate in places like Indonesia should remind us that our own history and achievements still inspire others. And that, if others are making efforts to improve their democratic way of life, so can we.

The insatiable hundred leeches

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I AM one of the many outraged people who almost retched at the shameful list published by the INQUIRER the other Thursday of the 100 individuals who, in 2001 and 2002, received annual salaries and other perquisites of from P1 million to as much as P9 million of public funds as executives of government-owned or controlled corporations and other government offices.

I could hardly believe the cupidity of these people who could collect such unconscionable benefits without even a little decent hesitation, much less guilt, despite the serious financial difficulties of our government and the people's day-to-day cost-of-living problems that are threatening the very survival of our nation. Their callous disregard of the general suffering of their unfortunate countrymen reminds me of the insensitiveness of the French nobility who flippantly said, as they gloated over their doomed birthright, "After us, the deluge!"

Who are these privileged scroungers that they should be allowed to suck the very lifeblood of our country dry like insatiable Draculas? Are they of such incredible intelligence or insurmountable abilities that they stand head and shoulders above the rest of us citizens who must make do with whatever little we earn because we do not share their supposedly Olympian qualities? Do they work to the bone 48 hours a day in their small and uncomfortable cubicles, dedicated solely to the work they are sworn to perform on behalf of the sovereign people who are paying their fabulous remunerations? In their obsession to serve their masters, do they purposely forsake their golf tourneys, or their games at the casinos, or, in the case of the boss ladies, their appointments with their manicurists and hairdressers?

I happen to know some of the chosen people on the list and am not impressed at all by their qualifications. They are by and large ordinary persons who have been made extraordinary only by the income they are receiving like manna from an over-indulgent heaven. This is not mere sour grapes. The Mischosen One Hundred are where they are now because they have the right ties with the Appointing Power whom they have pleased not with their virtues but with their vices of political support, financial contributions, or marital relationship by consanguinity or even remote affinity. In our deranged society, what matters most for financial success in the public service is not competence and integrity but, simply, Connections.

Thus, as noted in the INQUIRER editorial on the same subject, one of the highest paid among the misbegotten hundred can hardly speak acceptable English; it is certainly not an indispensable qualification that one should be able to speak with a false Harvard accent, but one receiving a salary in the millions of pesos should, I think, at least be able to speak the language fluently. This is not snobbishness but simple respectability for what is appropriate in certain situations. It is like Bayani Fernando's rule against men appearing topless in the streets of Metro Manila in utter disregard of decency and common courtesy.

I am reminded of that time my wife and I were having lunch at the Max's Restaurant in Magallanes when a man in a sando entered and was allowed to sit down and eat with the other people who were all properly dressed. When I talked to the manager the next time I was there, I complained about the intruder who had not paid proper respect for the other customers. The manager said, "You know, sir, the customer is always right," and I replied, "I am also a customer, and I felt offended by the man's discourtesy." I have not gone back to that restaurant because it does not enforce a dress code for its customers in the interest of propriety and politeness.

A similar code should be enforced in the hiring and paying of the executives in government offices where the salary standardization law is not applied. The fact that the sky's the limit in fixing the perquisites of their top managers does not mean that they can go whole hog and misappropriate the people's money as far as their lenient charters allow them to gratify their private caprices. Even at home, we should be properly dressed at meals, and more so should we be polite when eating outside in the company of other people. By the same token, the lack of reasonable restrictions in fixing the compensation of certain privileged officials does not justify their receiving such compensation without limit or shame.

Congress should make a careful re-study of the liberal charters of these government-owned or controlled corporations and other government agencies whose officials revel in the unbelievable extravagance of millions of public funds unjustly paid to them by themselves. The President, for her part, should exercise more control over such corporations, beginning with the more careful appointment of their extraordinarily privileged executives who are enjoying regal treatment in this allegedly democratic land.

Female spies

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Is there such a thing as the secret history of history? Absolutely. And that women were part of it? Again, absolutely.

The answers are provided by a novelty on 800 F Street, NW, which titillates you with the admonition, "Here you will meet men and women living by their wits, lurking in the shadows of world affairs." Sounds like a movie, but it's actually the International Spy Museum, the first public museum in America solely devoted to espionage, sometimes called the "invisible profession."

What immediately strikes you as you enter the portals and read the handouts is the use of language in this secret "profession." What is a spy? You see two types: fictional spies and actual spies in history. But the heart of any kind of espionage is secrecy and to protect this you need a "code." Someone who figures out this code is called a "codebreaker." Technically, the term is "cryptanalyst," derived from cryptology, which converts a code into "plain text." It is an extremely precise science, which, according to CIA counterintelligence chief James Jesus Angleton, is calculated to "break down the other man's security, protect your signals and penetrate the other guy's signals security." Sounds cryptic indeed.

The spooky museum is divided into sections dealing with reading the enemy's mail, "setting Europe ablaze," spies of the Cold War, "both a brain and a body," Berlin as a city of spies, the CIA tunnel in 1953 to tap Soviet-East German intelligence, spies in the skies, and the "wilderness of mirrors," which consists of deceptions, artifices, stratagems and other devices of misinformation.

As you may have guessed, I gravitate to "brain and body," which is about female spies. You read that "whenever and wherever there has been spying, there have been women spies—and myths about women spies."

A familiar name meets the eye, appropriately Mata Hari, probably the most overrated female spy in history. She was born Margaretha Zelle in Holland. She became the most notorious female spy in World War II, who took on the famous nickname as an exotic dancer. The Mata Myth picture shows her vivid and slim torso thinly clad, her bare bellybutton sticking out. And the caption reads: "Margaretha Zelle's cover didn't cover much."

Which means she was not a good spy. As Mata Hari, she made clumsy attempts at spying for Germany in World War I. France arrested her and executed her in 1917. She wasn't very bright either, because in a letter asking for an opera ticket, she signed her assumed name. End of Mata Hari, more body than brain.

Take her exact opposite who was so good at spying during the American Civil War that it took a very long time for the authorities to catch up with her. This was Harriet Tubman, an ex-slave who became known as the heroine of the Underground Railroad. There was no railroad as such, but she was responsible for delivering so many slaves to freedom through her underground system.

In World War II, American and British women went to dangerous lengths to aid the Allies in Nazi-occupied Europe. One of the most famous was American Virginia Hall, who had been injured in one leg before the war, and branded as "the woman with the limp." She taught herself to walk without a limp. She was the only American female civilian to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The scintillating Josephine Baker, another American woman, lived in Paris as a singer and dancer to French audiences. In secret, she worked for the Deuxieme Bureau, a French military intelligence operation. She was called the "singing spy." Eventually leaving France, which was occupied by the Nazis, she carried secrets written in invisible ink on her music sheets. The sheets are staring you with nothing on them—just blank. Amazing.

And there were deadly errors too, involving supposedly women spies. British nurse Edith Cavell risked her life helping Allied soldiers escape in World War I. She did it for purely humanitarian reasons, but Germany accused her of spying and executed her. The picture showing her execution is so lurid. She was a "compassionate patriot" but never engaged in espionage.

Others were doomed before they could even start spying. One of them was a young woman, Violette Szabo, who was described as a spy and sabotage agent. She was parachuted into France on D-Day in World War II to assist the Allied forces. She was captured by the Gestapo and refused to talk. She was tortured and executed at age 24.

The most widely known female spy after World War II, Ethel Rosenberg, was the spouse of another master spy, Julius Rosenberg. The Cold War had begun and spies during this period engaged in clandestine activities all over the world. When the Soviet Union exploded its first atomic bomb in 1949, the American intelligence community was stunned. They knew right away that spies had stolen their secrets. They suspected a "Communist spring ring" and searched everywhere, including Hollywood.

The McCarthy witchhunt unearthed Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. The anti-Soviet hysteria made it impossible for them to have a fair trial. They were executed and many parties, including their children, questioned their guilt. But in 1995 the US National Security Agency released the "Venona Papers," the code-named intercepts of encrypted KGB cables of the 1940s. "The documents clearly showed that the Rosenbergs and many others accused of espionage were guilty as charged, victims of the passions of the Cold War." The Rosenbergs were betrayed by Ethel's brother, David Greenglass, who had passed secrets to the Soviets from Los Alamos in Mexico. He was sentenced to 15 years.

We haven't heard of a famous female spy in recent years, but there will be another one. They are just undetected right now. As you leave the museum, you realize that within history indeed, there's always another history, which is secret and may never be fully told. And that women were part ot it.

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Expert media maneuvers

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE MEDIA predictably bannered the Thursday "walkout" of Sen. Miriam Santiago who was visibly agitated by the answers of former President Fidel Ramos to her intense grilling on the Smokey Mountain project during the Senate blue ribbon committee hearing chaired by Sen. Joker Arroyo. But did she really walk out?

An observer who had followed the proceedings opined that Santiago merely "converted" her exit from the hearing into a "walkout"—doubtless aware of its media value. An hour before the hearing broke up, Santiago was seen receiving a little note and soon after, she gathered her belongings and left the room. Apparently the note was from a media person who advised her about press deadlines. Santiago proceeded directly to the Senate media center and met the press. She did not return to the hearing and thus it was billed a "walkout." In the media center, her husband Jun Santiago was highly visible.

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Not to be outdone, FVR, himself an astute media player, also went straight to the press center after he was excused from the hearing, and talked to the media. Since his exit from power six years ago, FVR has kept his links with the media through periodic and regular sessions with them, and has always enjoyed a good press.

Interestingly, the media people have divided the protagonists into the Santiago-Razon side versus the FVR-Reghis Romero group, both backed up by powerful PR handlers.

* * *

Another figure who knows how to play to the media is Imelda Marcos. At the MOPC Congressional Night last Wednesday, MOPC president Tony Lopez commented that during the recent National Security Council meeting an opinion was raised whether certain issues in our history, such as the Marcoses' fabled wealth and the Estrada plunder case, ought to have some kind of closure. That gave Imelda, who came to the MOPC with two tables of followers, an opening for one of her famous spiels, which caught everyone by surprise. She said that when her husband left office in 1986, the budget was only P84 million, but when President Corazon Aquino took power, the budget more than doubled. In the succeeding administrations, it just shot up higher and higher. Imelda also argued that over the past 18 years since the Aquino government slapped over 400 cases against the Marcoses, there has been no conviction. She pleaded with the media to conduct an audit of the Marcos regime's record with regard to corruption and human rights.

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Imelda was, as usual, exaggerating. It's true that not one of the Marcos family went to jail over the $680 million deposits in Swiss banks. But the fact that those deposits were ordered returned to the Filipino people by the Swiss courts was, as one legal luminary pointed out, enough to establish the Marcoses' kleptocracy and grand-scale thievery. The morning after the MOPC affair, I reviewed my notes and recalled that Imelda had been convicted by a Supreme Court division, together with two other Marcos officials, in the LRT case, but through some clever maneuver, Estelito Mendoza managed to have the decision overturned by the Court en banc. In fact, if the cases haven't moved, one big reason is the expert maneuvering by the Marcoses' lawyers.

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Right now, the biggest criminal case the Marcoses are facing before the Supreme Court is the tax evasion case against Ilocos Norte Gov. Bongbong Marcos, and only that Court can answer why this and the other cases haven't moved. But there's another case that could give the country some form of financial relief. It will be recalled that the Supreme Court ruled with finality in 1997 on the P23-billion inheritance tax case against the Marcos estate. In other words, this amount could be collected if the government would levy and seize all the properties of the Marcoses. The question is, why hasn't this been done?

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As for Imelda's allegation that the budget under Cory Aquino more than doubled, it should be pointed out that more than half of that 1986 budget was gone by the time Cory assumed power in February of that year; it was used up by Marcos for the snap elections. Then, too, while the Marcos budget was indeed small, he left a trail of behest and crony loans. My notes at that time showed that the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Philippine National Bank alone had P126 billion in such loans, and up to now the people are still paying for them. When Marcos fled, the country had a foreign debt of $28 billion, much of which the taxpayers are paying up to now as part of our $56-billion foreign debt. Some of those went into the mothballed Bataan Nuclear Power Plant, which yielded huge kickbacks for Marcos' pals. A legal luminary also stressed that Marcos was the only Filipino president to have defaulted on debt payments (in 1983), as a result of which the country was blacklisted by the World Bank-IMF and other multilateral institutions. Until now, the country hasn't recovered from the cataclysmic Marcos regime.

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The speeches of Senate President Franklin Drilon and Speaker Jose de Venecia and the responses they gave to the questions raised at the MOPC Forum were loaded with facts and data that kept this columnist so busy jotting down notes that I could barely eat my dinner. It's reassuring to note that both leaders realize the urgency of the country's situation and the need for solutions. For instance, Drilon stressed that he supports JDV's initiative on line-item budgeting as well as recognizes the need for reforms in the Constitution though he differs with JDV on the manner of adopting those reforms. Drilon also said the 2005 budget might be passed in February or March next year, given the late submission by the Palace and the tedious scrutiny now required.

Young people for the environment

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IF young people are to inherit a "cleaner and greener" world, then they must be involved, right now, in making sure the world they inherit will still be livable, still productive, still healthy and sustainable not just for themselves but for the generations that will follow them.

This is the idea behind the Bayer Young Environmental Envoy Program, which originated in Thailand in 1995 as a project initiated by the Association for Life and Environment and a group of companies operating in that country. In 1996, Bayer, a research-based global enterprise involved in health care, crop science and material science, became the main corporate sponsor of the program. Recently, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) placed the BYEE under its umbrella, making Bayer the first private sector partner of UNEP.

Over the years, the BYEE has expanded its reach, so that today there are Bayer Young Environmental Envoys in Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore, China, India and Indonesia, and soon in Latin America and Poland.

This is how the BYEE works: College students from all over the country are asked to submit an essay on his or her personal contribution to the environment and how it has made a difference. After a regional evaluation, 12 to 14 envoys are chosen to participate in a three-day Eco-camp where they go on exposure trips, learn from local community experiences, and listen to and discuss with resource persons various environmental issues.

At the close of the Eco-camp, each participant is asked to make an oral presentation and defense of his or her "personal action plan" for the environment, judged by a panel of five judges at the national level.

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THE JUDGES are tasked with evaluating the action plans and even making suggestions to the young envoys, individually and as a group, on how they could better implement their plans. The Top Five Envoys will then join their counterparts from the other participating countries on a week-long, all-expense paid trip to Germany, where they will get first-hand impressions of how environmental laws are implemented and environment-friendly practices have been ingrained among most German families and communities.

This year, I was asked to join the BYEE panel of judges for the first time, and I must say the experience was enriching not just because, as is usually the case in competitions involving young people, their enthusiasm and idealism were inspiring, but also because in the course of our discussions, my fellow judges proved to be a treasure trove of information on the environment.

We were asked to look into the feasibility of each project, because the BYEE seeks not just to recognize young environmental champions, but also to get them actively involved in helping address environmental problems in their localities, even long after the search. As the day deepened, I was gratified to note the extent of the young people's knowledge of the environment, and their determination to do something about it.

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS, then to the Top Five Envoys who will be visiting Germany in November: Maila Beniera of the West Visayas State University in Iloilo; Maria Angela Flores, a development communications major at UP Los Baños; Albert Genato of the Nueva Vizcaya State University in Bayombong; Celso Jucutan of Don Mariano Marcos State University in La Union; and Joseph Jeffrey Uy of Ateneo de Davao University.

Beniera, who was the topnotcher, proposed a project involving segregated waste collection inside the West Visayas State University campus and the university medical center, its transfer to waste stations in four barangays where WVSU has an extension program, and the conduct of educational and livelihood training on waste segregation, recycling and environmental awareness among the residents. She even had a plan for the marketing of the products that the workshops would produce.

Flores, who has worked as an intern with the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, proposed an "Adopt-a-Kid for the Environment" program, involving student organizations in UPLB who will adopt schoolchildren from nearby public schools who will then go through a year-long program of environmental consciousness training, using games and other creative learning strategies.

Genato impressed us with a comprehensive yet simple plan for the cleanup of Magat River, employing community organization among the informal settlers along the river banks, twice-monthly cleanups involving student volunteers, and even lobbying with the local government for an ordinance prohibiting the dumping of garbage in the river.

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JUCUTAN'S project, called "Adopt-a-Mangrove" forest, seeks to involve seaside communities in the "reforestation" of depleted mangrove forests along the coast, beginning with community consultation, education and organization, and the introduction of alternative livelihood projects while they are working to replant and protect the fragile mangroves.

Uy's project, when compared with the others, is deceptively simple, providing for the collection and storage of waste material containing toxic chemicals, such as car batteries and some appliances. He foresees not just a widespread collection drive, but also a public education program starting with the Ateneo de Davao community.

As you can see, none of the projects are grandiose or even overly ambitious. But a long reach was not what we were looking for. Rather, we wanted to see these young people thinking of immediate and "doable" solutions to problems confronting them in their local settings. The trip to Germany will allow them to "think globally," but their projects will let them "act locally."

Understanding the Filipino

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

WHERE the perceived problem with Filipino identity started is perhaps best left to sociologists to argue. Some people may even have been surprised to discover that there is supposed to be a national identity crisis (rather than an individual one) to which are ascribed many of our problems.

Be that as it may, several books have been written with the purpose of trying to capture the essence of the Filipino. In her publication "Cultural Icons of the Philippines," Visitacion "Chit" de la Torre approaches the subject from the point of view of cultural icons. (Tell me who or what you like/worship/adore, and I'll tell you who you are.) It is, for example, through images of the Banaue Rice Terraces, the jeepney, the *sarimanok*, and the Sto. Niño that the Filipino emerges.

De la Torre divides these symbols into: (a) material objects or objects from nature (the bamboo, the eagle, the sampaguita, (b) food and beverage/drinks (mango, *pan de sal, lechon, bagoong, adobo, tuba,* San Miguel beer), (c) tourist destinations (Intramuros, Boracay, Bohol's Chocolate Hills, Vigan, etc.), (d) cultural practices or traditions (*mano po, pamanhikan, pabasa,* fiestas, cockfighting). The later section of the coffee-table book focuses on prominent Filipinos' choices of cultural icons.

The last part is interesting for the more personal point of view such as Edith Oliveros' choice of the installation of the Sacred Heart and the house blessing as a cultural tradition and her espousal of the duster complete with *tsinelas* as a national costume. A lady from Pangasinan picked *bangus* and Princess Urduja ("whether (she) really lived or not"), a rather interesting comment on our attitudes. Other contributors, including former Rep. Butch Abad and Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, selected the overseas worker, our biggest source of foreign exchange.

Utang na loob must have fallen into disrepute despite its lofty sentiment and isn't mentioned at all, due perhaps to its use by politicians to pay off political debts to the detriment of the people.

Some choices indicate that indeed times have changed. Dr. Avelino Aventura selected President Ferdinand Marcos because aside from being "an intelligent man who thought long term … he was able to prevent the division of the Philippines from Mindanao."

De la Torre's personal choices like the *harana*, Intramuros, Banaue Rice Terraces are not surprising. However, this makes it an ideal book for Philippine consulates to display since what may be obvious to us may be enlightening to others.

* * *

You know the usual question: "Who would you choose to be marooned with on a desert island?"

In college, I opted for John Donne, but only because I hadn't had the pleasure of meeting Geoffrey Chaucer yet. Basically it was their sense of humor with erotic overtones that I found amusing. I mean how else can one survive a shipwreck without someone to make you laugh?

To those two iconoclasts, I now add Fr. Ignacio Alcina, S.J. True, I've long had a bias for the Jesuits, having studied in two of their institutions, but the Jesuits I've known usually demonstrate a capacity to laugh at themselves and the rest of the world. You need that to survive. I have to admit though that I didn't run into any eroticism with Father Alcina, but then Donne and Chaucer more than make up for it.

Oddly enough it was through the Dominicans, specifically Fr. Lucio Gutierrez, and a Franciscan, Fr. Cantius Kobak, that I came to read Father Alcina. They have translated the missionary's "History of the Bisayan People in the Philippine Islands" (the original consists of nine volumes which lay forgotten for 112 years in the Real Sociedad Medica de Sevilla), truly a monumental work. When discovered in 1784, Part Two was being used as wrappings for powders and ointments. Part Two, by Fr. Pablo Fernandez, O.P., was first serialized in the UST publication "Philippiniana Sacra" in 1979, which unfortunately is no longer available.

Luckily for us, the first volume of Alcina's Part One, Book One has been published finally. Apparently there are three other volumes of Part One and, along with Part Two, they will eventually be available.

Father Alcina is one of those priests who make you wonder how the connotations attached to the word "friar" took a bad turn. The man entered the Company at the age of 22 and spent 42 years of his religious life in the Philippines, 36 of them in the Visayas. It was no picnic and yet the tone of the history is joyous. He writes of the early Visayans' history, culture, practices and presents his views as well as insights and "enshrined it all on paper for posterity." It's a pity the water colors of the flora and fauna as well as inhabitants, their houses, ships and dances are not reproduced in the original colors, which would have led to a greater appreciation of what this one man has accomplished.

Aside from religious works, Father Alcina wrote "Thesaurus of the Bisayan Language," with some 20,000 words "together with its grammatical variations, derivatives, and every conceivable structure of this language." He also had another book of 600 Visayan proverbs. Unfortunately, many of his works were lost.

In the meantime, "History of the Bisayan People" is a fine start. We hope it doesn't take another quarter of a century before we see the next volume.

Christmas with TV

YOUNG BLOOD

Roel A. Andag

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

I LIVE alone. Keeping me company are inexpensive aquarium fishes that have to endure hunger spells when I'm away on assignment.

Friends who visit me at home always notice something missing, something they believe every household should have: a television set. My ready retort to their earnest suggestion that I buy one is always that I hardly have time to watch TV shows. Now, after more than three years of this routine, I am going to heed their advice.

The last TV set I owned was a second-hand unit sold to me in January 2000 by a friend who was in a tight financial fix at the time. Until then, I would watch TV together with all the other 12 residents of the boarding house where I used to live. My friend approached me with his offer at the precise moment when I was moving to my present apartment. The heady mix of an irresistibly low price, a lingering millennium Yuletide generosity, and excitement over starting to live alone made me forget to examine the condition of the unit. Barely four months later, it started throwing signs that it was not in tip-top condition. It was only then that I noticed its age and advanced stage of disrepair.

I got to know its age when I talked to the previous owner, who rattled off tips on how to twist this and how to tweak that to keep the set working. He volunteered to fix the problem by attaching one end of a long wire to a retractable antenna which up to that time I did not know existed. The other end of the wire was attached to a prism-like aluminum frame perched atop the roof of my apartment. He explained that the wire and aluminum frame were improvised peripherals he had forgotten to turn over at the time of sale.

My TV survived another week on this life-support system. A static image of a weather report was the last thing I saw before the screen exploded in a spiral of riotous colors and then completely turned black. Resigned as I was to its impending retirement, the logical decision was to relegate it to a compartment beneath the sink.

Days later, a *magbobote* offered to buy the discarded TV set. I was only too glad to give him the relic for free, peripherals and all.

Surprisingly, having no TV set for the first time in 25 years was rather painless. The transition proved seamless. I felt no irresistible urge to buy a new one. Considering my escalating living expenses and stagnant income, I figured that buying a new TV set was an excess I could not afford.

As time went by, I started to appreciate the advantages of its absence: a smaller shock from electricity bills, more sensible home relaxation through reading, endless Scrabble matches with my computer, and a more restful sleep with my mind free of disturbing news replete with gory images. I also read sometime last year about the annual TV Turnoff Week campaign launched primarily by Westerners who detest the dominance of the corporate agenda in media, which ought to be anathema to a democracy, they say.

These compelling reasons solidified my resolve not to buy a TV anymore. I went on with my life without the one gadget I practically grew up with.

Being insulated from the ugliness that pervades many TV programs is the most important advantage I have so far gained. I do not get to see sensationalized TV reports on sex, violence and other unsavory topics. I do not witness the harsh rawness of reality TV where, in the name of ratings, hosts spew insults with studied ruthlessness at competitors who are forced to thrash fellow aspirants with shocking ferocity.

The snatches of prime-time TV I catch nowadays come from those sets mounted aboard buses that I ride on my way home. Fellow passengers unwittingly supplement the little information I get from it. Some would regale one another with the latest show-biz scandals. Others are fixated on trying to untangle convoluted soap opera plots. Still others delightedly dissect the merits and demerits of Tinseltown's young invaders. Critical issues and current events are rarely discussed, if at all. All of which contribute to making my day even more stressful.

During these fleeting moments in transit, I wishfully think that Philippine television can still be exorcised of idiocy and be turned into an effective tool of information. But I'm jolted back to my senses when the bus screeches to a halt.

Still after three years, I miss the boob tube. The 2004 Olympics heightened my desire to have a TV set once again.

But I actually have been hankering for one long before the sports extravaganza in Greece began. Being the advocacy officer of a nonprofit organization, I found it difficult to keep abreast of developments in the world without one. Keeping myself updated during the May 2004 national elections was a tough challenge, for instance. I was always stumped whenever my professors and classmates in graduate school intellectualized what they heard and saw when Candidate X appeared on a TV program. And imagine my puzzlement whenever my friends would parrot a commercial. I felt so detached and a bit irrelevant.

All this made me think of what I missed by not having a TV set for three years: debates on Edsa Dos and Tres, analyses of 9/11 and succeeding events, the Athens Olympics, of course, and I don't know what else.

Newspapers, magazines and the Internet replaced TV as my principal sources of daily information. Now I realize that only TV can relay accounts blow by blow and in real time. Reading, I believe, is a wiser option. But tastefully juxtaposed audio and graphics that only TV can provide are what I sorely miss: a politician's telling body language, a forgotten community languishing in poverty but throbbing with hope, a salmon desperately struggling to free itself from a grizzly's claws.

It is settled then: I'll get a TV set for Christmas. While I am trying to save enough to buy one, I'll exploit every opportunity of winning a set via any of the many pre-Yuletide marketing gimmicks. Two acquisition schemes, with the one goal of ending my accidental yet prolonged boycott.

I can already see myself and some friends at Christmas enjoying a brand new 24-inch TV pulsating with life's sounds and colors. I just hope my angelfishes will derive the same satisfaction as I.

My taste may be inexpensive but I can definitely be discriminating in what I watch. With its characteristic bad taste, Philippine TV today is blah, but I must say it is blah-er not to have a TV set at all. I now miss TV, minus the rubbish. So I plan to begin watching again. After all, the one who wields the remote is the one in control.

Roel A. Andag, 28, earned his master's degree in Public Administration from the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

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LETTERS

Wrong populist analogy

I RESPOND to Magdaleno Mallari's letter, "The populist pitfall." (PDI, 9/10/04) The writer speaks as if the government we have is a populist one. But where is the analogy to the Chavez government (Venezuela)?

According to Mallari, the Venezuelan government is doling out money earned from oil. Ours is stealing from people to oil its political engines. The first is holding down the price of electricity, ours is inflicting purchased power adjustments on our electricity bills—already among the highest in Asia. The first has local power industries shying away, ours has power companies and their brokers reveling in magnanimous contracts.

"The government can do more to improve the plight of the poor by allowing the economy to fully develop," said Mallari. Now what is Mallari's idea of development but the improvement of our plight? How can one precede the other? He speaks of investments as if there is a more prudent investment than an investment in our people.

No, sir, a policy that binds our budget to the payment of rich creditors—while sacrificing allocations for basic services, such as health—is populist only if popularity among global financial institutions is the measure you go by.

—**BERNARDO VIDAL,**
origadoy@hotmail.com

Pork will bring us down the drain

IT'S quite obvious that it would not be easy for us to resolve the pork barrel controversy at this time because it is evident that the personal interests of our legislators remain a prevailing consideration.

Despite his attempt to show sincere support for the administration's call for austerity during a cable TV show, Speaker Jose de Venecia could not hide his distress and discomfort over the pork deductions congressmen had to agree to.

The pork barrel, after all, is where our legislators get the funds for maintaining their lifestyle. It is also the source of the funds they usually use to repay their political supporters; and of the millions of pesos they spend to get themselves or closest kin reelected or elected to a new position. Now, we see how impossible and foolish it is for legislators to totally give up this "manna" from poor Juan de la Cruz.

The pork barrel, without question, in effect grants executive power to a supposedly, purely legislative body. Contrary to what some congressmen say and believe, which I think is self-serving anyway, the pork is a key factor in the spread of government corruption; and in our political, social and economic decline. Unless our legislators do away with pork, our country could really end up down the drain a few short years from now, as feared by the economic professors from the University of the Philippines.

—**LUPO G. GRAGEDA,**
Lot 15, Blk 1,
New Country Homes Subd.,
Estanza, Legazpi City

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The wonders of using one's mother tongue

THE BILL filed by party-list representatives seeking the adoption of the Filipino language, our mother tongue, as the medium of instruction and communication in all schools, as well as in government and non-government institutions and offices, is reasonable.

As a PROUT (Progressive Utilization Theory) advocate, I believe in the principle that one's mother tongue is the pride of a nation, the essential factor that generates genuine affinity and unity among the citizens of a country. It also has significant implications to cultural preservation, political development and economic growth.

As language is inseparably linked with one's fundamental characteristics or identity, we cannot deny the fact that the best vehicle by which people can express their inner thoughts and ideas in a free manner is their mother tongue. On the other hand, if people speak in a foreign language, they generally feel uneasy and uncomfortable; thus, they cannot clearly communicate their thoughts and ideas.

PR Sarkar, a post-contemporary Indian sociologist and philosopher, noted: "If people feel uneasy when they speak in a language other than their mother tongue and they feel such uneasiness constantly, their vital energy or dynamism will be disturbed. Consequently, their vital force as an individual and as a nation will be weakened. In such circumstances, a sort of psychological crisis will occur. This will result in the emergence of inferiority complexes, which will cause debility in the intelligence of the people. People whose language is suppressed lose their moral courage, initiative and power to protest. Ultimately, a defeatist psychology develops in them and as a group such people face the prospect of total annihilation... The most important point in this regard is that such a linguistically suppressed group of people will always remain economically backward due to continuous psycho-economic exploitation."

If we are to remain as a nation in the next century, this is the most opportune time for us to deliberate carefully on the pros and cons of the above-mentioned bill and to assess its implications.

I submit that we should not forget that English is the present lingua franca of the world. I therefore suggest English should be taught and used solely as an international link language similar to what the Japanese, Koreans, Taiwanese and Chinese are doing.

But using Filipino as our medium of instruction and communication will inspire in us self-confidence and self-respect; and promote a sublime awareness of our cultural heritage. It will enhance our cultural identity, thus throwing off feelings of psychic inferiority and defeatist complexes which prevent us from attaining self-reliance and from fulfilling our inherent individual and collective potentials.

—**SHERMON O. CRUZ,**
president,
Timpuyog People's Movement Inc.,
Barangay 17, General Luna Street,
Laoag City, Ilocos Norte

Rationalized SSS benefits

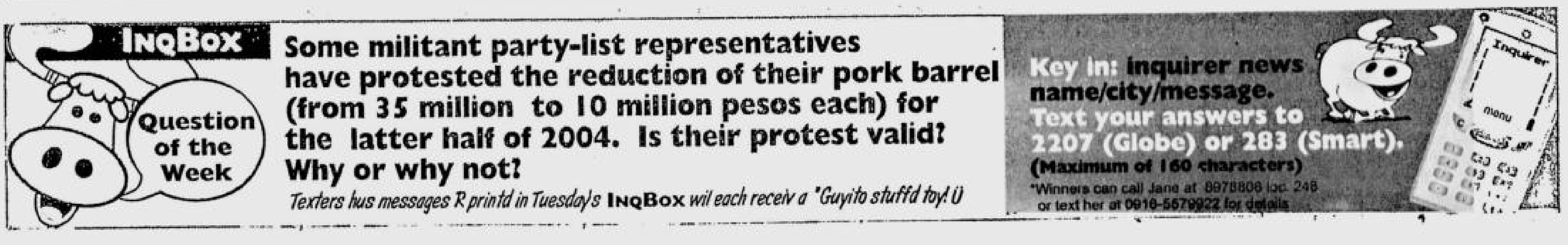
THIS is in reference to the letter of Facundo Tallo, (PDI, 8/21/04) requesting an increase in the Social Security System retirement pension.

The plight of pensioners remains the foremost concern of the SSS. However, it cannot grant any pension increase at this time due to financial constraints. Increasing the pension without the necessary adjustment in the contribution rate would lead to the collapse of the SSS.

Recent actuarial studies show that the SSS funds would last until 2015. The present SSS management is addressing the problems by intensifying collections and rationalizing investments to enhance its income. It is also exploring ways to optimize use of resources to generate savings.

We wish to point out that the salaries of SSS officials and employees are a result of an in-depth study conducted by Andersen Consulting in 1997. It is benchmarked on prevailing compensation packages in the banking and pre-need industries. For the past three years, SSS management has rationalized the benefits of its employees and this has resulted to a decrease in personnel expenditures.

—**JOEL P. PALACIOS,**
assistant vice president,
Media Affairs Department,
Social Security System,
East Avenue, Diliman, QC



INQBOX

Question of the Week

Some militant party-list representatives have protested the reduction of their pork barrel (from 35 million to 10 million pesos each) for the latter half of 2004. Is their protest valid? Why or why not?

Texters hus messages R printd in Tuesday's **INQBOX** *wil each receiv a "Guyito stuffd toy! Ü*

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Across the NATION

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100 CAPTAINS BACK MAYOR

Village chiefs oppose war games

DAVAO CITY—More than a hundred barangay captains from the city's three districts trooped to the Sangguniang Panlungsod on Wednesday and threw their support behind city officials, including Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, against the planned conduct of the Balikatan military exercises here.

In a manifesto, the barangay leaders and their councilors said the presence of American soldiers in the city would only create tension among the residents.

"If this military exercises will be held in this city and provoke protests and terrorist attacks, we are going against our very own program of making Davao City a safe haven for business and investments," deputy mayor Myrna Dalodo-Ortiz later said.

The RP-US Mutual Defense Board would meet in Hawaii next week to determine the venue of next year's military exercises.

The training, which will last for three to four weeks, would involve around 4,000 American and Filipino soldiers according to Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Zosimo Paredes II during a recent visit here.

Paredes said aside from Davao, other cities were also being considered for the war games.

"I hope President Macapagal-Arroyo will take heed of the clamor of Davaoeños," Councilor Angela Librado said.

Retired Philippine Navy Capt. Danilo Vizmanos lauded the position of Davao City officials against the conduct of the war games here.

BARANGAY captains from different Davao City villages support their mayor's opposition to military exercises in the city.

BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

"America just wants to exploit the raw material sources knowing that Mindanao is rich with minerals. They want Mindanao as a staging area, a spring board of military power," Vizmanos, convenor of the US Troops Out Now! and the Junk VFA (Visiting Forces Agreement) Movement, said.

Vizmanos said the joint military exercise has no benefit to the military because the problem is not about sophisticated weaponry but "faulty and questionable leadership."

He said such leadership had caused widespread demoralization, resulting in the military's failed campaign against insurgents.

In General Santos City, Col. Alfredo Cayton, commander of the Army's 601st Infantry brigade, said the next Balikatan could also be held in Sarangani.

Cayton met with Maj. Gen. Gary North, operations and training chief of the US forces in the Pacific, during the latter's visit here on Wednesday afternoon.

Cayton said during his meeting with North, Sarangani was mentioned as one of the possible venues for the Balikatan. *Anthony Allada, Jeffrey Tupas and Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Calapan prosecutor decries harassment through sex case

By Madonna Virola
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CITY OF CALAPAN—The city prosecutor here denied allegations that he molested a 15-year-old student named Amy (not her real name) recently.

A case of acts of lasciviousness against Nicolas Señoren, city prosecutor, was filed at the National Bureau of Investigation in Manila on Sept. 16, not Sept. 15 as earlier reported.

Señoren said he came to know about the case on Sept. 21 when Purificacion Arriola, social welfare coordinator, came to his office, asking him if he knew about the case of acts of lasciviousness filed against him by Amy.

"I learned from Arriola that when DSWD higher office asked her to validate and locate (the girl), she found her in the address of Nilo Baculo, who told her that [Amy] was staying there but had an errand in Manila with her sister," Señoren told the INQUIRER.

Señoren said Baculo, owner of a funeral parlor here, bore grudges against him as proven by several cases Baculo filed against him.

"But they were all dismissed by the DOJ [Department of Justice] for lack of merit," said Señoren.

Señoren remembered that he indeed met Amy and her sister Jocelyn [not her real name] on Sept. 16 when the two consulted him if they could get a private lawyer for an abduction with rape case involving Jocelyn.

Amy is a witness to Jocelyn's case.

The case involves the father of the girls and was filed by Cherry Bayani, wife of Edgar Bayani.

"The [girls] are friends of Baculo and he found an opportunity to get even with me," said Señoren.

In 2002, three separate cases of grave threats were filed against Baculo, Señoren said.

"The first two are pending in RTC 39 where I am trial prosecutor. The third is pending preliminary investigation with the office of regional state prosecutor in San Pablo," said Señoren.

Main suspect in slay of journalist pleads innocent in arraignment

PAGADIAN CITY—The suspected murderer of journalist Edgar Damalerio yesterday pleaded innocent during a heavily-secured arraignment at a court here.

Former police officer Guillermo Wapile, wearing a yellow detainee's shirt, arrived at the sala of Regional Trial Court Judge Rolando Goan here shortly before 9 a.m.

He was escorted by heavily-armed personnel of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP).

The court was jampacked with kibitzers, members of the press and court personnel.

Before Wapile took the stand, the court was teeming with conversations.

The former police officer, who was handcuffed when he arrived, sat at the front row of the bleachers in the court and was about five meters away from where Gemma Damalerio, wife of the slain journalist, was seated.

He even looked straight into Gemma's eye.

When he took the stand, the voices suddenly toned down and the court fell silent.

After the clerk read the charge against him for the murder of Damalerio, Wapile said in a hardly audible voice that he was not guilty.

He also pleaded not guilty to the charge of malversation of government property in connection with the disappearance of the firearms issued him—an M-16 Armalite rifle and a 9 mm pistol.

The firearms are now in the custody of the Zamboanga del Sur provincial police command after a relative of Wapile turned them in.

During the arraignment, Wapile's lawyer Edgar Bonggalos of the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) asked the court that the former police officer be detained at the regional office of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Zamboanga City or the CIDG headquarters at Camp Abelon here.

He said his client fears for his life.

"If my two other requests will not be granted, I pray that I will be detained alone," Wapile asked the court in Cebuano.

He said being a former police officer, he was instrumental for the arrest of several notorious individuals, who are being kept in the jail.

But Damalerio's wife, through State Prosecutor Alandrex Betoya, opposed Wapile's requests.

Ms Damalerio said granting Wapile's request would be "risky (because) he might escape again or that those who masterminded the killing of my husband might snatch or liquidate him in the process of transporting him during the trial."

She insisted that Wapile be detained at the city jail.

"In case something happens to him we can easily blame the BJMP for laxity . . . and that the BJMP on one hand should also (institute) security measures to secure the suspect," Ms Damalerio said through her counsel.

The court scheduled the hearing on Wapile's request when the pre-trial takes place on Oct. 22.

After the arraignment, BJMP personnel put the handcuffs back on Wapile, escorted him out of the court and led him to a waiting van fitted with grills.

He was then driven back to the jail.

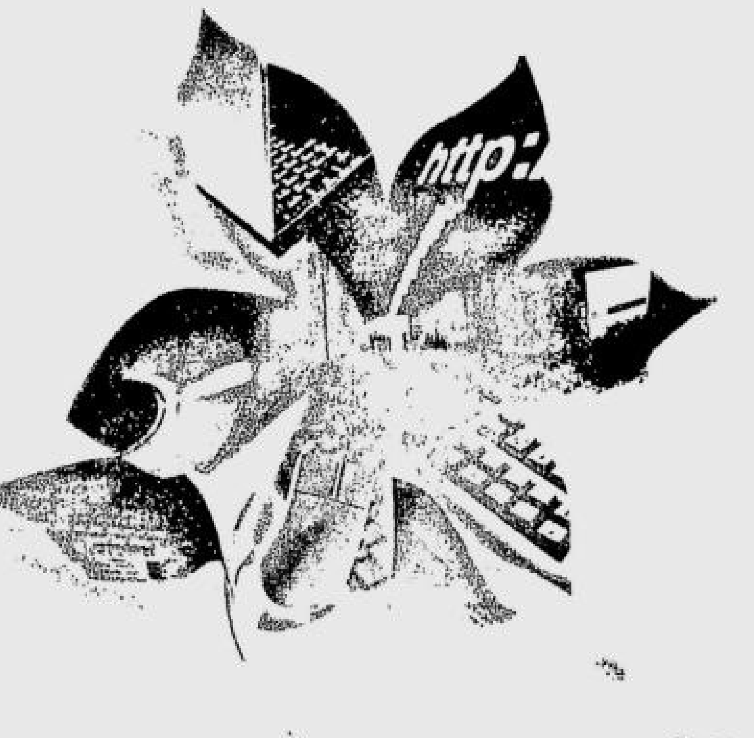
Ms Damalerio said during her "eye contact" with Wapile, she did not see a trace of remorse in the former police officer's face.

She said Wapile, who gained weight, was very relaxed.

Ms Damalerio said the former police officer's complexion has also become fair "probably because he spent his days in an air-conditioned room while in hiding."

Wapile was tagged by several witnesses as the one who shot dead Damalerio on May 13, 2002.

The journalist was on his home from a press conference when he was attacked. *Hernan de la Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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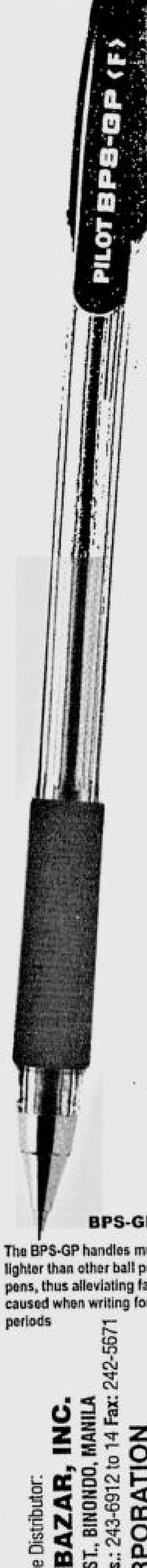

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PCSO TODAY

PRO-POOR ALERT!

13 more hospitals and health units get endowments from PCSO

Is your family income less than P4,961 a month? Do you have an illness or ailment that requires costly treatment? If the answer to both questions is yes, this news item is for you.

by Ferdinand G. Mendoza

THIRTEEN MORE HOSPITALS and medical clinics joined the list of health institutions that have been granted endowment funds by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO).

These include the Saint Therese Dialysis Center in Commonwealth, Quezon City; the Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital and Medical Center in Ilocos Sur; the Hope for Cancer Cure Foundation based in Makati; the Sta. Cruz District Hospital in Marinduque; the South Super Highway Medical Center in Cavite; the St. Dominic Medical Center in Cavite; the Looc Community Hospital in Occidental Mindoro; the San Francisco Municipal Hospital in Quezon; the Mangatarem Municipal Hospital in Pangasinan; the Department of Otorhinolaryngology of Medical City in Mandaluyong; the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Children's Home in Cebu City; the Orphanage of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Sorsogon; and the Tuloy Foundation Inc.

Endowment funds are financial grants given by the PCSO to private and government hospitals, as well as health institutions, so that these hospitals and health institutions can give free or discounted medical treatment to indigent patients.

PCSO officials define an indigent as a Filipino family or individual whose income falls below the poverty threshold or one who earns not more than P4,961 a month.

PCSO officials added that endowment funds are sourced from the agency's charity fund. The charity fund, in turn, is generated by way of PCSO income from the sale of lotto and sweepstakes tickets.

As per Republic Act 1169, some 30 percent of PCSO's net receipts is set aside as contribution to the agency's Charity Fund. For every P10 earned by PCSO, P3 goes to charity.

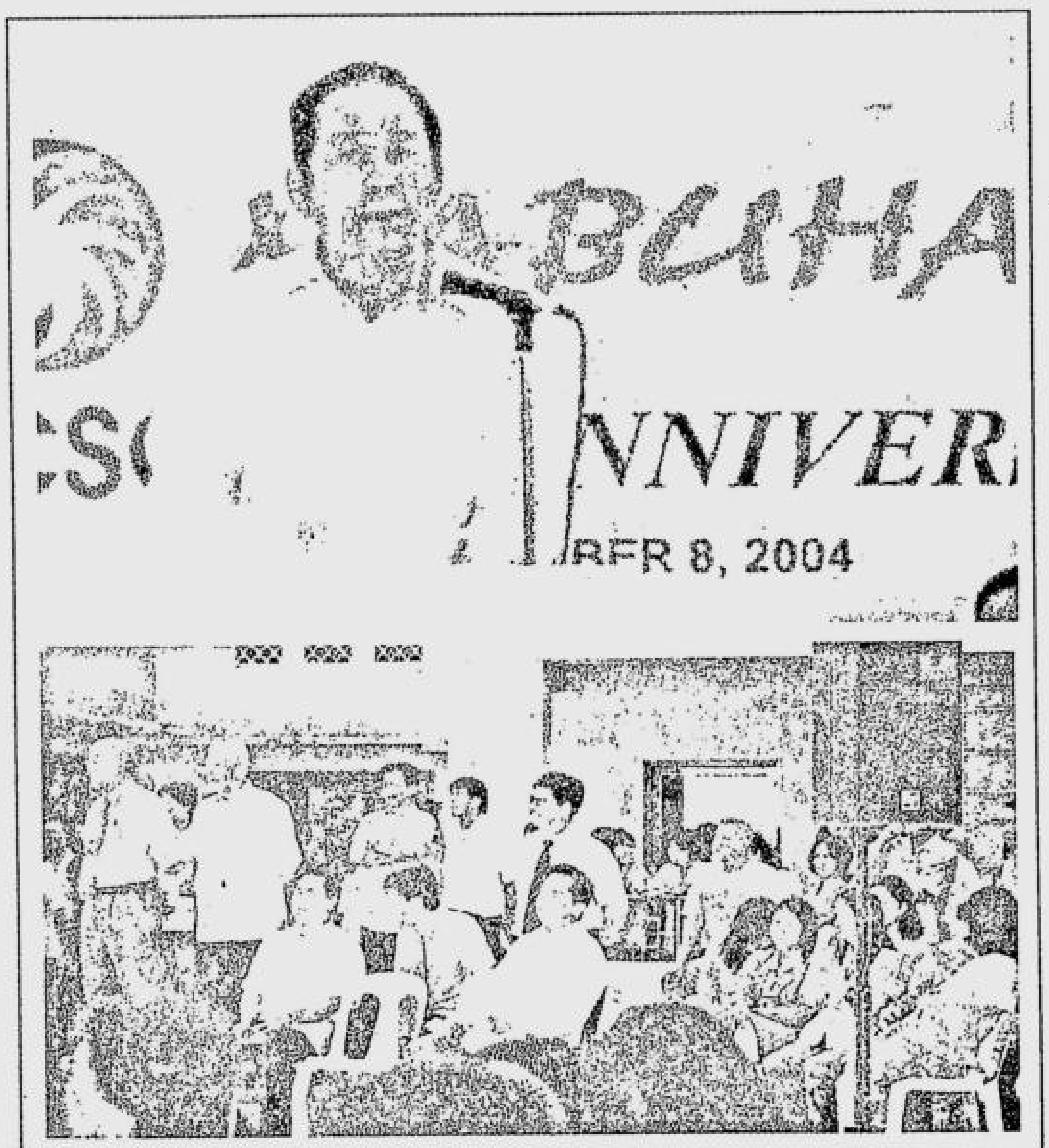
PCSO officials bared that the Saint Therese Dialysis Center, the Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital and Medical Center, and the Hope for Cancer Cure Foundation were each granted P1 million in endowment funds from PCSO.

To date, endowment funds have been granted by the PCSO to over a hundred private and government hospitals, as well as medical-service oriented non-governmental organizations that offer medical treatment and assistance to the poor.

The Philippine National Red Cross receives the largest endowment at P1 million a month or P12 million a year from PCSO.

Caritas Manila, a Catholic charity institution, receives an annual endowment fund of P5 million while the Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center in Manila has a PCSO endowment fund amounting to P4 million.

The National Center for Mental Health in Mandaluyong City also receives regular monthly grants from PCSO at P3.6 million a year while the Quezon Institute in Quezon City, the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc., and the Hospicio de San Jose in Manila each receive P2.4 milliom a year from PCSO.



SIMPLE LIVING and unwavering service to the poor and the needy were the themes of the 70th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) last September 8. A highlight of this year's affair was the formal introduction of newly-appointed PCSO chairman Sergio O. Valencia (above) to PCSO officers, staff, and personnel.

PHOTOS BY DARCY GERONIMO AND DES MANLAPAZ

How To Access Endowment Funds

PCSO OFFICIALS STRESSED that endowment funds should only be used for covering medical expenses of indigent patients confined or consulting at the outpatient department of endowment beneficiary hospitals and medical institutions.

These medical expenses include diagnostics and laboratory examinations, drugs and medicines, medical supplies, and rental of medical equipment, physical rehabilitation procedures, and blood and blood typing and screening tests, among others.

"In the past, we suspended the release of endowment funds to some hospitals because their hospital officials used these endowment funds to buy door knobs or for repainting their halls," an official disclosed.

No cash doleouts or reimbursements will be given to indigents who access endowment funds.

Indigent patients seeking endowment fund support can either go to PCSO or to the social service unit of the hospital or medical facility that is an endowment fund beneficiary of PCSO.

Indigent patients should submit the following requirements before they can access the endowment fund: 1) medical abstract signed by the Resident-in-Charge of the hospital, which includes the prescribed medicines, medical supplies, blood, diagnosis examination, therapeutic and doctor's prognosis; and 2) patient's profile undertaken by the hospital's Social Service Unit.

The hospital's Medical Social Service or a PCSO social worker shall evaluate if a patient can avail of endowment fund support, after all requirements are submitted.

For succeeding requests for additional assistance, a patient needs an updated medical abstract that will justify the need for further treatment, and an updated profile from the Medical Social Service Unit or the PCSO social worker.

PCSO officials explained that cost of treatement per ailment should not exceed P20,000.

"In cases when the indigent patient's medical needs exceed P20,000, the patient can write a letter of request for additional assistance from PCSO," they added.

The endowment beneficiary hospital can also issue a recommendation for additional aid in the patient's behalf. This recommendation shall be subject to PCSO approval.

PCSO officials stressed that endowment funds cannot be used for reimbursements of doctor's fees and obstetrics cases.

Official Draw Results

Lotto 6/42 Sept. 2004 7

(in any order)

13 19 27 40 32 6

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P3,276,607.00

VizMin Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P3,953,149.15

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 1 8 1 4 0 9
1st Prize: 1 winner/s of P1,427,365.00
Suertres 3: 7 5 4
Lotto EZ 2: 22 07

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 8

(in any order)

31 03 14 13 05 26

Luzon Jackpot Prize: 1 winner/s of
P14,459,663.40

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 4 Digit Game: 3 2 9 1
Suertres 3: 8 2 6
Lotto EZ 2: 3 15

SuperLotto 6/49 Sept. 2004 9

(in any order)

21 19 32 10 01 22

Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P26,566,619.10

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 5 6 0 2 9 1
1st Prize: no winner/s of P451,151.72
Suertres 3: 5 5 0
Lotto EZ 2: 28 26

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 10

(in any order)

05 02 06 33 21 35

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P4,647,980.40

All following numbers should be in exact order.

Lotto 4 Digit Game: 9 2 1 2
Suertres 3: 4 3 1
Lotto EZ 2: 04 06

Lotto 6/42 Sept. 2004 11

(in any order)

07 38 21 30 31 42

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P6,444,330.00

VizMin Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P4,424,975.63

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 3 4 1 8 7 2
1st Prize: 1 winner/s of P706,915.00
Suertres 3: 0 1 1
Lotto EZ 2: 11 18

SuperLotto 6/49 Sept. 2004 12

(in any order)

14 17 34 37 44 43

Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P32,301,927.00

All following numbers should be in exact order

Suertres 3: 2 6 9
Lotto EZ 2: 15 25

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 13

(in any order)

43 36 14 32 10 17

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P9,118,393.20

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 4 Digit Game: 8 1 8 4
Suertres 3: 9 8 6
Lotto EZ 2: 03 06

Lotto 6/42 Sept. 2004 14

(in any order)

34 15 35 03 32 04

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P9,862,671.00

VizMin Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P4,885,601.76

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 8 8 4 8 9 2
1st Prize: no winner/s of P368,915.04
Suertres 3: 4 3 2
Lotto EZ 2: 03 24

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 15

(in any order)

12 45 44 39 31 40

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P14,054,693.10

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 7 7 4 4
Suertres 3: 7 8 3
Lotto EZ 2: 29 24

SuperLotto 6/49 Sept. 2004 16

(in any order)

35 36 15 06 34 03

Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P38,753,208.90

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 0 0 1 2 7 3
1st Prize: no winner/s of P534,786.50
Suertres 3: 8 3 9
Lotto EZ 2: 10 22

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 17

(in any order)

30 25 43 17 01 26

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P19,216,169.70

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 4 Digit Game: 4 4 8 4
Suertres 3: 2 3 3
Lotto EZ 2: 24 09

Lotto 6/42 Sept. 2004 18

(in any order)

01 17 30 14 27 09

Luzon Jackpot Prize: 1 winner/s of
P13,262,402.00

VizMin Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P5,349,930.20

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 7 0 4 2 1 2
1st Prize: no winner/s of P902,900.48
Suertres 3: 1 0 7
Lotto EZ 2: 18 25

SuperLotto 6/49 Sept. 2004 19

(in any order)

10 40 18 21 48 06

Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P45,048,490.20

All following numbers should be in exact order

Suertres 3: 3 4 5
Lotto EZ 2: 16 09

MegaLotto 6/45 Sept. 2004 20

(in any order)

40 44 22 31 42 9

Luzon Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P24,395,534.10

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 4 Digit Game: 5 9 6 7
Suertres 3: 0 9 3
Lotto EZ 2: 29 02

Lotto 6/42 Sept. 2004 21

(in any order)

37 38 42 19 07 16

Luzon Jackpot Prize: 1 winner/s of
P3,233,851.00

VizMin Jackpot Prize: no winner/s of
P6,531,363.07

All following numbers should be in exact order

Lotto 6 Digit Game: 8 5 6 2 9 0
Suertres 3: 5 2 6
Lotto EZ 2: 10 13

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Charity begins at home

PCSO pays national gov't P688 million in taxes

By Dmitri Arce

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS are usually exempt from paying taxes. Not the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). The nation's only government-mandated charity agency is also one of the country's biggest tax payers.

From January to July of this year alone, the PCSO paid the national government P688 million in taxes.

The bulk of tax payments came from the 10-percent documentary stamps tax charged against the lotto and sweepstakes sales of PCSO, which reached P6.3 billion for the first seven months of this year alone.

Lotto and sweepstakes operations netted P561,631,211.20 in documentary stamp taxes after deducting five percent agent's commissions and five percent direct cost from the PCSO's gross sales as of July of this year.

Other taxes paid to the government by PCSO between January and July include: prize fund tax or 5 percent of the total prize fund allocation for all PCSO games (P57,625,439.91), government money payments or tax payments for PCSO's donations of medicine and medical equipment to several hospitals and medical institutions nationwide and for the construction of health care facilities (P54,401,145.73), withholding tax on PCSO employees (P9,345,981.29), and 5 percent tax levied against lotto agents (P5,937,989.20).

Benigno Aguas, PCSO department manager for budget and accounting, said the agency posted a 16-percent increase in tax payments for the first seven months of this year, compared to the taxes paid for the same period in 2003.

From January to July 2003, the PCSO paid P592,537,386.45 in taxes.

Aguas added that PCSO always paid its tax obligations on time. He was optimistic that the PCSO tax payments for 2004 will be bigger than the total tax payments made in 2003, which amounted to P1.033 billion.

PCSO donates to Children's Hour

SOME 1,500 EMPLOYEES and management officers of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) donated a total of P105,742.70 to Children's Hour Philippines, Inc., (CHPI) a non-profit, non-stock organization that funds service projects that directly benefit children.

Rank-and-file PCSO employees donated P52,871.35. This was matched in the same amount by the PCSO management.

Evangeline "Gee" T. Mayuga, executive director of CHPI, said that this is the first time PCSO donated to the Children's Hour, which has been raising money for children since 1999.

The donation of PCSO employees was turned over to Mayuga during PCSO's 70th Anniversary celebration last September 8 at the PCSO grounds.

Mayuga said that the PCSO donation to CHPI will be used to help fund some 72 projects for children aged 0 to 17 years.

These projects include medical services; vocational training; psycho-social rehabilitation; home re-integration; formal and informal education; and donation of pediatric equipment to select hospitals.

Mayuga said that a total of 155,000 children have benefited from Children's Hour projects. ***Dmitri Arce***

72 lucky patrons join lotto instant millionaires circle

"*MAY NANALO BA TALAGA diyan sa lotto* [Do people really win in lotto]?"

This is the typical question posed by skeptics of the country's on-line lottery games.

PCSO officials are quick to dismiss doubts, citing that as of July this year, some 72 lotto patrons have already made it to the lotto instant millionaires circle.

These instant millionaires bet and won in PCSO's main lotto games like the 6-Digit Lotto, the Lotto 6/42, the Megalotto 6/45 and the Superlotto 6/49 that offer millions of pesos in jackpot payouts.

One winner, a government engineer from Pangasinan, cashed in P1.4 million after winning in the Lotto 6/42 game.

"*Tatlong taon kong inalagaan yung numero. Sinuwerte din ako* [I have been betting on my pet numbers for three years. I finally got lucky]," he said.

Over a billion pesos in cash prizes were won in these lotto games from January to July of this year.

For the 6-Digit Lotto, 12 persons won 1st Prizes that collectively amounted to about P30 million. A total of 18 persons from Luzon and three from the Visayas-Mindanao area won the jackpot prizes in Lotto 6/42 involving the amount of P341 million.

The Megalotto 6/45 in Luzon and VisMin areas produced 24 instant millionaires and shared a total jackpot prize of P456 million, while the Superlotto 6/49 made dreams come true for 15 bettors who won a total of P331 million in jackpot prizes.

Aside from these lotto games, the PCSO also conducts draws for three other lotto games with smaller cash payouts but with more winning patrons. These are the EZ2, the 3-Digit and the 4-Digit lotto games.

A total of 27,015 people won first prizes in all of PCSO's seven lotto games, for a total cash payout of P1.4 billion from January to July of this year.

On the other hand, 13 million people won lower prizes for the seven lotto games, amounting to P1.39 billion in cash winnings for the same period.

Last year, 162 patrons became instant millionaires because of lotto games, and a total of P2.2 billion were given out for jackpot prizes for all of the lotto games.

A total of 21 million Filipinos won lower cash payouts for lotto games or a total cash payout amounting to P2.18 billion. ***Dmitri Arce***

From P2 million to P740,000

Austerity colors 70th PCSO anniversary celeb

CALL IT INTUITION OR ANTICIPATION. Officials and employees of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) began their belt-tightening measures a few weeks before President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's call for austerity in government.

First to go was the charity agency's usually lavish anniversary budget.

Says PCSO general manager Rosario C. Uriarte: "It would be a mockery of the PCSO's mandate if the agency continues to spend lavishly for its anniversary activities when it should be using most of its funds to provide health and medical assistance for the poor."

Sources said that last year, the PCSO spent P2.073 million to celebrate for two days its 69th founding anniversary. In 2002, the cost of anniversary activities amounted to P2.121 million.

The 2003 anniversary budget covered the following expenses: meals good for two days (P783,000), live bands (P150,000), variety and game shows and provincial district office (PDO) celebrations (P403,250), free clinic (27,037.50), tiangge (P7,000), physical arrangement (P90,000), fun run and parlor games (P110,900), recognition and awards (P332,450), contingency fund (P50,000) and raffle draws and giveaways for PCSO's more than 1,000 employees (P120,000).

This year, the PCSO pegged its anniversary budget to P740,000. This translated to a packed lunch of pansit sotanghon, sweet and sour meat balls, beef and mushroom, buko pandan, and brownies (P294,533), memorabilia and souvenirs for model employee awardees (P373,000), mass and stipend (P10,000), 25 plaques of recognition (P11,250), cash gift for 21 model employees (P42,000), and physical arrangement expenses (P9,700).

Newly appointed PCSO chair Sergio O. Valencia – reporting for work for the first time since his appointment – was formally introduced to PCSO staff and personnel during the anniversary festivities.

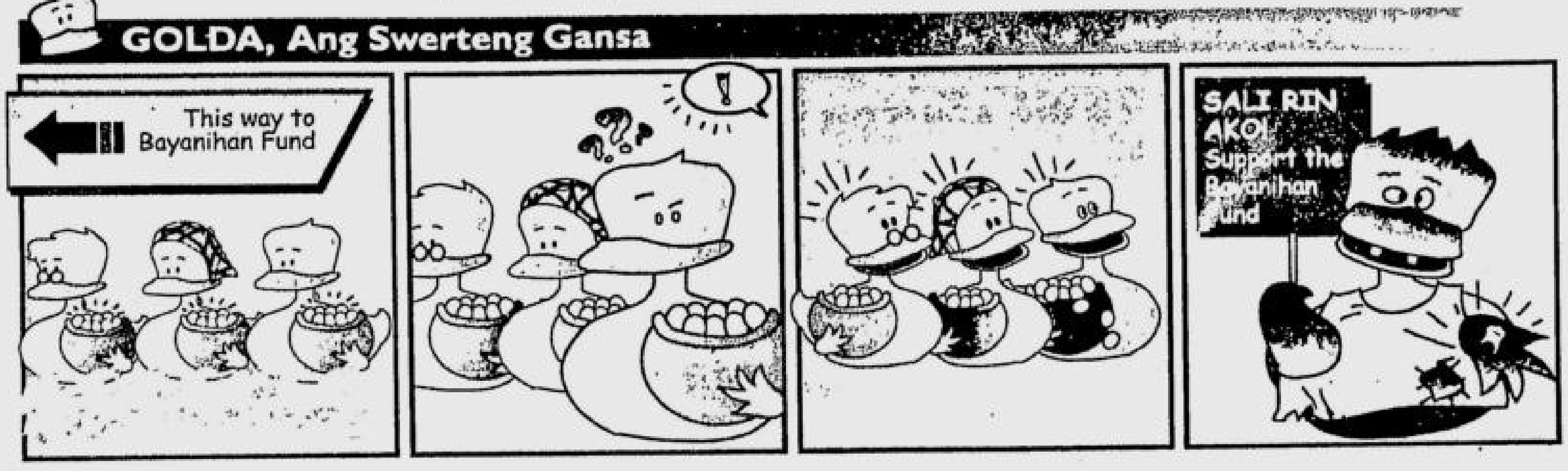
Valencia lauded PCSO officials and employees for the austere anniversary preparations and described it as a "humbling show of faith."

Still, PCSO employees had mixed reactions to the less expensive anniversary proceedings.

One employee quipped: "Sana tulad na lang ng dati. [Wish it were just like last year]. A longer celebration is much more fun and foisters camaraderie.

Still another employee said: "Tama lang yun na matipid. Dapat lang talaga dahil magastos masyado ang mga celebration dati. [It's but right to be frugal. The anniversary celebrations of the past were too expensive]. ***Dmitri Arce***

2004 (P740,000)	Anniversary Budget	2003 (2.073 million)
0.00	raffles and giveaways	120,000.00
0.00	live band	150,000.00
0.00	parlor games	110,900.00
0.00	Tiangge	7,000.00
0.00	variety/ game show/ provincial office celebration	403,250.00
0.00	Contingency Fund	50,000.00
426,250.00	memorabilia, souvenirs and plaques/ P2,000 cash gift per model employees	332,450.00
294,533	food and refreshments	783,000.00
10,000	mass and stipend	0.00
9,700	physical arrangement	90,000.00
0.00	free clinic	27,037.50
P740,483.00	GRAND TOTAL	P2,073,637.50


GOLDA, Ang Swerteng Gansa
This way to Bayanihan Fund
!
SALI RIN AKO! Support the Bayanihan Fund

Solving problems

HALF-EMPTY HALF-FULL

Rosario C. Uriarte

THE OTHER DAY, I MET BY CHANCE an old friend I knew in college. We had lost touch shortly after graduation. And in the intervening years, when time and circumstance made get-togethers and even accidental meetings difficult, we somehow managed to get snippets of news about each other through common friends.

But, as it happens, when news gets passed from person to person, one never really is sure that what one hears about is true. Which makes unexpected meetings between long lost friends exciting; an opportunity to put a certainty in the words one has heard.

"*Kumusta ka na? Nasa gobyerno ka pa rin? Buti natitiis mo?*" my friend sarcastically quipped, as we headed for the nearest cafe.

We were campus leaders in the mid-70s, during the time of Martial Law. Like all young idealists, there was much we did not like about how government conducted its affairs and what these affairs did to the poor and the powerless in society. Back then, we were sure we had all the answers and could change things for the better by the sheer force of our convictions.

"*Okay naman ako,*" I told her, "It's difficult but fulfilling, because the job allows me to help the poor, *pati na rin ang bansa natin.*"

"But at what cost to you? And what about your colleagues? Are they also for the poor? *Krisis na talaga ang Pilipinas*. We have more than our fill of corrupt officials and pontificating, hypocritical politicians. *Wala ng pag-asa ang mga tao.*"

I was dumbstruck. Much as I wanted to say that things were not as hopeless as they seemed, my friend changed the topic and began talking about her kids. We parted with a promise to see each other more often. But I could not forget the intense loathing in her voice. I wondered how many Filipinos felt the same. More importantly, how many of us in government understood the gravity and possible consequences of this growing anger and despair of the *common tao*.

I suddenly remembered the first time I went abroad to study in a country much richer than ours. I could not help but envy the sense of purpose and optimism displayed by the citizens and officials of my host country. Sure, the people criticized their government. They had their share of scandals and stories of corruption. But to them, a scandal or an expose was not an end in itself. These people took steps that made it difficult for officials to stay corrupt. They were people who did not stop even after the offender got jailed.

There was nothing personal about their politics. These people and their elected or appointed leaders spent all their time devising solutions for problems, instead of looking for the government official or agency they could blame for any and all failings in their midst. If a branch of government faltered in the performance of its duties, they studied with precision the structures and work systems that led to failures. They improved these structures and systems, making them less prone to anomalies. Some simple examples: Cops have to stand some distance from traffic violators they were arresting so that extortion or bribery will be difficult to commit. Work cubicles have glass panels so that one can see what an employee did at all times. These were common sense modifications that later proved to be effective reform measures.

Best of all, this country had citizens who badgered their government with reform measures the people themselves conceived. They never backed down; never let despair or cynicism defeat their will.

Perhaps, we Filipinos can learn from the experience of other nations, and other citizens of the world. I have to admit, the loathing felt by my friend -- and maybe, other Filipinos -- is not entirely misplaced. But isn't it time we adopted the emphasis-on-solution strategy long practiced by our wealthier neighbors? Oh, there's no need to debate the matter. If you believe it, like I believe it, let's just do it.

Rosario C. Uriarte is the General Manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). Kindly e-mail all comments suggestions to gmpcso@yahoo.com

List of PCSO Endowment Fund Beneficiaries in Metro Manila

(AS OF JUNE 21, 2004)

QUEZON CITY	AFP Medical Center Asia Renal Care Children's Medical Center East Avenue Medical Center FEU-Dr. Nicanor Reyes Med. Foundation National Kidney & Transplant Institute Overseas Contract Worker Gen. Hospital Philippine Heart Center
MARIKINA	Amang Rodriguez Medical Center
SAN JUAN	Cardinal Santos Memorial Hospital St. Martin de Porres Hospital
PARAÑAQUE	Diosdado Macapagal Mem. Medical Cntr. Foundation of our Lady Peace Mission Parañaque Community Hospital Parañaque Medical Center
CALOOCAN	Dr. Jose Rodriguez Memorial Hospital Pres. Diosdado Macapagal Mem. Med. Cntr.
MANILA	Philippine General Hospital Jose Reyes Mem. Medical Center UST/Manila Lingkod E.R. Foundation Malacañang Dialysis Center Ospital ng Sampaloc Ospital ng Tondo Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital San Lazaro Hospital University of Santo Tomas Hospital
MANDALUYONG	Medical City Mandaluyong City Medical Center National Center for Mental Health Nephro Systems, Inc.
MUNTINLUPA	Ospital ng Muntinlupa
PASIG	Pasig City General Hospital

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INQUIRER Visayas
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Edralyn L. Benedicto

Literacy classes empower women

By Iris C. Montellano
Cebu City

TERESITA "Mating" Ponce, 23, reached second year high school but had not had a chance to complete her secondary education. So when the Cebu Integrated Area Development Program (CIADP) of the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc. (Rafi) started implementing a non-formal education (NFE) program in her village in Tabuelan, Cebu, she eagerly took the challenge.

"I realized that there are still more things that I need to develop like my values ... Before, I would only be good to other people if they [were] good to me. But those negative values disappeared when I joined the NFE classes," Mating said in Cebuano.

She said she learned to mingle with other people in the community. Before, she said she would never join any of its activities, such as cleaning the surroundings.

Pablita "Pabling" Escalan, 48, also related how the NFE helped her become a better person. "I learned how to adjust so that I don't offend other people. We do need to respect others by acknowledging their presence and bless the hands of our elders."

Both Mating and Pabling have witnessed the transformations not only within themselves but their classmates in the NFE as well. They have seen how grumpy, older women became approachable and would even start cracking jokes in the group.

ADULT villagers learn to read and write through the non-formal education project implemented by the Cebu Integrated Area Development Program of the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc. At right, the women non-formal education learners join in the barangay cleanup along the road leading to their community, beautifying their surroundings and taking pride in themselves. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

"Before, we could not approach our other companions because they were so meek. Now that we are in the NFE, they already developed humor and not get irritated when we joke around," Pabling said.

Her own mother was her classmate in the NFE. "She already know how to write her name," she proudly announced.

Thirty-seven percent of the CIADP adult literacy learners in Barangay Kanluhangon in the northwestern town of Tabuelan could not read and write when they joined the program. But in the last May elections, many of them were able to vote on their own.

"They were no longer assisted, they could already vote for whom they choose," Mating said.

As part of its continuing effort to empower women in Kanluhangon, the CIADP introduced the dressmaking livelihood project through NFE graduate Adelina "Maria" Sumampong, who was more than willing to share her skills.

Livelihood projects

Since they started in April, the women dressmakers have sewn togas that were rented by elementary and day care students. They also provided the dance costumes for the village's representatives in Tabuelan's Ani-anihan Festival in June and those of the day care students during their commencement exercises in March.

"I taught them how to get measurements in English so that when foreigners come to them, they won't have a hard time," Nang Maria said in Cebuano.

The goat dispersal project also contributed much to the improvement of the lives of its beneficiaries. Nang Pabling herself is raising two kids (one female and one male) from an ewe entrusted to her care. As soon as the female kid is ready to be passed on to another recipient, she could claim ownership of both ewe and male kid.

Asked how much has changed in her students since the first day of classes, facilitator Editha Oling said: "Their literacy skills were awakened. They now know how to write their names and do calculations so that they won't commit mistakes in giving change in their small stores."

The women learners have also become participative and more than willing to help in village activities. Their self-awareness has instilled pride in themselves that, in turn, paved the way for their active participation in developing the community.

"Our service to Barangay Kanluhangon is truly volunteerism ... The joy of our barangay is also our joy," Oling said.

Before, she said, it was very difficult to persuade the women to attend the classes because they were embarrassed to be in school. Moreover, their husbands were not very supportive because no one would be left in their homes.

But with the support of the Barangay Development Council in organizing and conducting the classes, husbands, vendors and other community members soon became curious and were eager to observe the literacy classes.

Mating narrated how she inspired her 4-year-old daughter Jillian to come to school herself. "My schooling in the NFE encouraged my daughter to study in the day care center," she said.

Women for dev't

The NFE is one of the components of the "Empowering Balamban, Asturias, Tuburan, and Tabuelan Project (Empowering BATT Corridor)" under a grant assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, in partnership with the provincial government.

When the financial assistance ended in January, Rafi took over the program to ensure its sustainability.

As of January, a total of 187 adult literacy learners have completed the 150 learning hours of the NFE. Today, women represent the majority of the community's organizations and sectors.

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AKBAYAN
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AXE WINSTON
Members of the the militant group Akbayan and other government employees, led by Akbayan Rep. Crispin Beltran (left), rally in front of the Government Service Insurance System to demand the resignation or dismissal of GSIS chief Winston Garcia for alleged anomalies and scandals in the GSIS.
JESS YUSON

Erap . . .

From page A1

the women romantically linked to the fallen leader in the P5-million museum and mausoleum being constructed in his private resort in Tanay, Rizal.

Only pictures of former First Lady now Sen. Loi Estrada will be found in the museum, the construction of which has again spawned controversy for the jailed leader.

"Only the pictures of First Lady Loi will be there; the others will appear in my autobiography," Estrada said through his spokesperson Rep. Didagen "Digs" Dilangalen.

The ousted leader said he wanted to project himself as a "statesman," which is how former US Presidents are presented in their museums and libraries.

Estrada was inspired by his idol, former actor and fprmer US President Ronald Reagan, who in retirement also had his life's mementos put on display at his private ranch in Santa Barbara, California.

In an earlier interview with the INQUIRER, Estrada said his museum would feature old photos, costumes from his movies, his Best Actor trophies, side by side with his citations and awards in the government service, mounted documents, and news clippings on the highlights of a political career that spans three decades.

Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio had warned the former leader that he could be returned to Camp Capinpin for constructing the museum without permission from the court.

Dilangalen said there was nothing in the Sandiganbayan order barring Estrada from making improvements on his land.

"This is my property," he quoted Estrada as saying. "I have even pointed to the site where I want to be buried."

Estrada is facing plunder and perjury charges before the special division of the Sandiganbayan.

Villa-Ignacio also questioned where the ex-President got the money to construct the museum, having been in jail for three years now.

According to Dilangalen, Estrada had made more than enough money in his 30 years as actor and producer.

"He is using private family funds. Some of his children contributed money," he said, adding that construction work started between May and June before Estrada was transferred to his rest house.

Young editor fights . . .

From page A1

"He was a decent, competent and talented journalist," said Lourdes Molina-Fernandez, editor in chief of Today.

"He was hardworking and fair. He didn't have a mean bone in his body," she said. "His death is a big loss to the newspaper industry."

Villanueva was on his way home after a late-night coverage in Makati. He boarded Laguna Star, a non-airconditioned bus bound for Baclaran. At around midnight, three male suspects surrounded him and asked for his cell phone, He refused.

There was a struggle and one of the suspects stabbed him, said witness Marcela Peralta, who sat near enough the victim to see and hear what happened.

While the three male suspects took off—minus the cell phone—the victim was brought to San Juan De Dios Hospital, Pasay City, where he was pronounced dead at 1:12 a.m.

The cell phone, a Nokia 7610, is with an unidentified hospital staff, said Pasay City Police Chief Inspector Joaquin Alva.

Principal suspect Rommel Capones, alias Butoy, 21, was arrested yesterday afternoon at Lawaan Street, Barangay Sto. Niño, Pasay City.

Capones was playing basketball when he was picked up by combined operatives from the intelligence division of the Pasay police.

Senior Inspector Joey Goforth said the suspect resisted arrest and had to be handcuffed twice.

Capones had a tattoo on his thighs and arms and admitted he was a member of the Sputnik gang.

He denied charges that he killed Villanueva, saying he was playing basketball when the holdup took place.

Police records showed that Capones had several cases of murder and rape and had been released last week on a P100,000-bail.

In another city, a television news anchor is in a hospital fighting for his life after holdup men shot him, took his money and his cell phone.

Christopher Misajon, 29, of GMA 6 in Iloilo City, suffered a bullet wound in the stomach after he and a female companion were attacked Thursday at 1 a.m. in Barangay San Rafael in Mandurriao District in Iloilo City.

According to PO3 Hector Pabalan of the Mandurriao police station, the victims were on their way to Jaro District. They took a shortcut—a dark and isolated dirt road behind SM City—when their car was approached by four suspects.

One of the suspects smashed the window near the driver's seat and poked a gun at Misajon's head.

Misajon parried the barrel and it went off, the police investigator said.

The suspects took two cellular phones and P500 in cash.

Misajon's companion managed to escape and immediately called for help.

Misajon anchors GMA's afternoon news program "Ratsada" and is a co-host for a Sunday radio segment in the same network. He is a former correspondent of Cebu Daily News. *With Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

Born with silver spoon, he lived on his own terms

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

YOU would never know he came from an old rich family, because Jose Villanueva did not have airs.

Villanueva was humble and quiet, friendly and funny, well-bred and thoughtful, hardworking and eager to learn new things.

This was our impression of him when he first stepped in the Board of Investments (BOI) Press Office six years ago as beat reporter for Today.

It did not take long before we (reporters) took him as one of our own although it was difficult at first to engage him in a long conversation—he only knew a few Tagalog words and spoke with a distinctive American twang.

Villanueva was James Dean cool. He was tall, dusky, and easy on the eye.

He was on his summer break from college studies in the US and he took the job because he wanted to try journalism.

He was a voracious reader (he would read a pocketbook while walking) and felt that journalism was the best way to become a good writer, just like his favorite author J.D. Salinger, author of the teenage angst classic "Catcher in the Rye."

It took a while before we realized he was a grandson of billionaire Roberto Villanueva, who controlled what used to be the country's largest construction company, AG&P, and one of the biggest banks, Far East Bank and Trust Co. (which merged a few years ago with Bank of the Philippine Islands).

In his first weeks at the beat, Villanueva was fetched by a driver or one of his younger siblings (he was the eldest in the family) and they would drive away in a luxury SUV back to family home in exclusive Wack-Wack Village, Mandaluyong City.

His family called him "Hose." We called him Jose, sometimes, Abdul Aziz because we loved to tease him about his Arab features.

Villanueva did not have much cash on him when he covered the business beat. He used to beg off when reporters took a cab to go back to the press office because, he said, he could not afford to chip in for the fare. He preferred to walk around the Makati business district and literally pounded the streets (he was a brisk walker).

He once told me he wanted to go back to the US and finish his studies. But he wanted to work, save and pay for his plane ticket and tuition. I asked him why when his family could afford to pay for this. He said he wanted to do it his own way.

We lost touch when he was transferred to another beat in 1999, although we would bump into each other a few times in the next five years.

Later, I found out he had moved out of the family home and was renting an apartment in Manila because he wanted to be independent.

It was during these times that Villanueva was seen riding public buses or walking a long stretch of Edsa to get home. He looked haggard and lost a lot of weight.

He never complained about his simple lifestyle, although he did resent rumors that he was getting thinner because he was into drugs.

But his friends in the business knew the real deal. He was born with a silver spoon but he wanted to live life on his own terms.

He did.

Gordon clears FVR in Smokey Mountain case

From page A1

zon told reporters.

On the other hand, Senate President Franklin Drilon said that as Ramos' justice secretary in 1993, the opinion he issued on the project did not involve its legality.

Next in line

Arroyo said that with Ramos done with his testimony, the officers of R-II Builders and the members of the executive committee that decided on the implementation of the project would be the next to be heard.

He said his committee had yet to decide whether Reghis Romero and Edmund Sese, owner and president of R-II Builders, respectively, and Dionisio de la Serna, chair of the executive committee, would be excused from testifying.

The three men had asked Arroyo to exclude them as resource persons on grounds that their appearance at the joint inquiry might prejudice a pending case before the Supreme Court also on the R-II Builders contract to develop Smokey Mountain.

Arroyo said the three men had been given seven days to submit their formal request to the committee, after which he would make a decision and seek approval from the committee members.

If his committee decides in favor of Romero and company, "that will be the end of the hearings," he said.

This will be the case as well if the blue ribbon committee decides against Romero's request as he and the others have said they intended to question the ruling before the Supreme Court.

Procedural matters only

Drilon clarified that he did not touch on the legality of the contract but on "procedural matters allowed under the law."

Ramos had asserted at the joint investigation that he had listened to the advice of his officials, including Drilon, the then justice secretary.

He had said Drilon issued two opinions in 1993 "on certain aspects of the project, which necessitated prior review of the joint venture agreement and its amendments."

Drilon told reporters yesterday that it was De la Serna who had asked him for an opinion on the procedure because the government had expanded the terms of the original contract.

He said he was asked whether the expanded contract would have to go through public bidding or could be forged on a negotiated basis.

"I had opined, given the fact that the scope of the contract and the cost had more than doubled, that rebidding was necessary—unless it was closely interrelated to the original concept, in which case it can be negotiated," Drilon told reporters.

It was up to De la Serna to determine that, he added.

"I did not rule on the legality of the contract," Drilon said. "Neither did I say that the contract was illegal. This is a matter that was never asked of me."

Time bomb

Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo called for a House inquiry into the health and safety hazards posed by the reclamation project, saying it was a "ticking time bomb" waiting to explode.

He cited reports that R-II Builders was allowed to build permanent housing structures over and near still uncleared heaps of garbage. He said this was against the original agreement that the developer should first thoroughly level and clear the 45-year-old dump.

"Whether the still unfinished project is worth pursuing, or whether some safety measures must first be undertaken, is what the investigation should [focus] and give recommendations on," Ocampo said.

"The logic for this contract is to ensure that no accidents will happen similar to the methane gas explosion in similarly converted garbage dumps in other countries, as what happened in Los Angeles, California, reportedly killing many people in the 1970s," he said.

Ocampo said people resettled near former garbage dumps were vulnerable to diseases caused by toxic fumes.

Methane, a gas lighter than air, escapes quickly from garbage even if covered by soil. It can form into gas that can cause a powerful explosion.

"The noble intention of our leaders who conceptualized the project are maybe beyond reproach," Ocampo said. "But we must ensure that those intentions are guided by sound judgments not only on legal or financial aspects but also on sanitary, health, and safety aspects."

Questions

Santiago bluntly told Ramos during the hearing that he was entitled to his own opinion, "but basically, any inquiry should be based on the laws involved."

She then bombarded Ramos with questions which, she said, he failed to answer thoroughly. Among the questions were:

- Did he authorize the release of P3.1 billion?
- Did he issue a proclamation classifying the reclaimed land as alienable and disposable land of the public domain pursuant to law?
- Did he or the Department of Environment and Natural Resources issue a written declaration that the land is no longer used for public use, public service, or quasi-public use as required by law?
- Did the Philippine Estates Authority make a written request for authority to reclaim the land? Did DENR issue such authority as required by law?
- Why did the NHA undertake the physical reclamation when it had no jurisdiction over reclaimed land under its own law?
- Why did the Ramos administration implement the plan without requesting Congress to enact a law authorizing and approving the lease of the reclaimed land or sale to private individuals of Filipino citizenship as required by law?

Santiago noted that Ramos was adamant not to answer the questions.

"In his view, they should not be raised ... and we should listen to his lecture on the urgent need to provide housing for the homeless. Everybody's heart is bleeding for the poor," she said.

But "nobility of intention is not enough," she added. "We have to obey the laws step by step in order for our intentions to be not only noble but also constitutional."

Coming forward

Gordon said he based his initial conclusion on Ramos' answers during the hearing, particularly on the issue of whether the Constitution was violated when the contract was awarded to R-II Builders.

He credited Ramos "for coming forward when he doesn't have to." *With a report from Cynthia D. Balana*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Makati barangays learn art of mediation

By Margaux C. Ortiz

EVERY peacemaker needs special skills to settle even the most inconsequential squabbles.

With this in mind, the Makati City government will provide training for barangay officials engaged in mediating disputes in the community.

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay said the training would give barangay mediators "a working knowledge of the process of mediation, especially on how to be effective mediators between neighbors.

"Mediation requires special skills which we hope our barangay officials would be able to acquire through these trainings," Binay said in a statement.

The mayor added that there is a need to promote the amicable settlement of disputes at the barangay level in order to strengthen the communities.

Makati Information and Community Relations chief Joselito Salgado said the training would delineate problems that could be solved at the barangay level, and more complex ones that need police investigation.

"There are cases which could have been solved by mediators that still find their way to the police blotter," Salgado told the INQUIRER. He said that focusing on barangay justice law would also help decongest the courts.

Binay said the training program would also help familiarize barangay officials with the issues of law and jurisprudence.

The mayor added that a guidebook for, Makati's barangay mediators would be published by the Liga ng Mga Barangay, the Philippine Mediation Foundation Inc. (PMFI) and the Department of Interior and Local Government.

The PMFI will provide the Makati Liga ng Mga Barangay technical assistance and training in the field of dispute mediation.

The foundation will also provide experts with knowledge and experience on legal issues, problems and recent jurisprudence on the Katarungang Pambarangay Law and the role of the local Lupong Tagapamayapa in settling disputes.

Training

The training for members of the barangay's Lupong Tagapamayapa is contained in a memorandum of agreement signed by officials of the Liga, PMFI and the DILG last week.

The Katarungang Pambarangay Law, or Presidential Decree 1508, promotes a system of amicable settlement of disputes at the barangay level.

The law was incorporated in the Local Government Code to strengthen the barangay justice system.

Last week, the Makati City government sent 25 of its traffic enforcers to a one-day "personality enhancement" course at the prestigious John Robert Powers training center in an effort to professionalize its traffic personnel.

Binay said the training would be part of Makati's campaign to show the professional side of government service.

The mayor said enforcers who would complete the course would be sent to the city's Central Business District, where major local and multinational firms, banks, hotels and shopping malls are located.

Good grooming

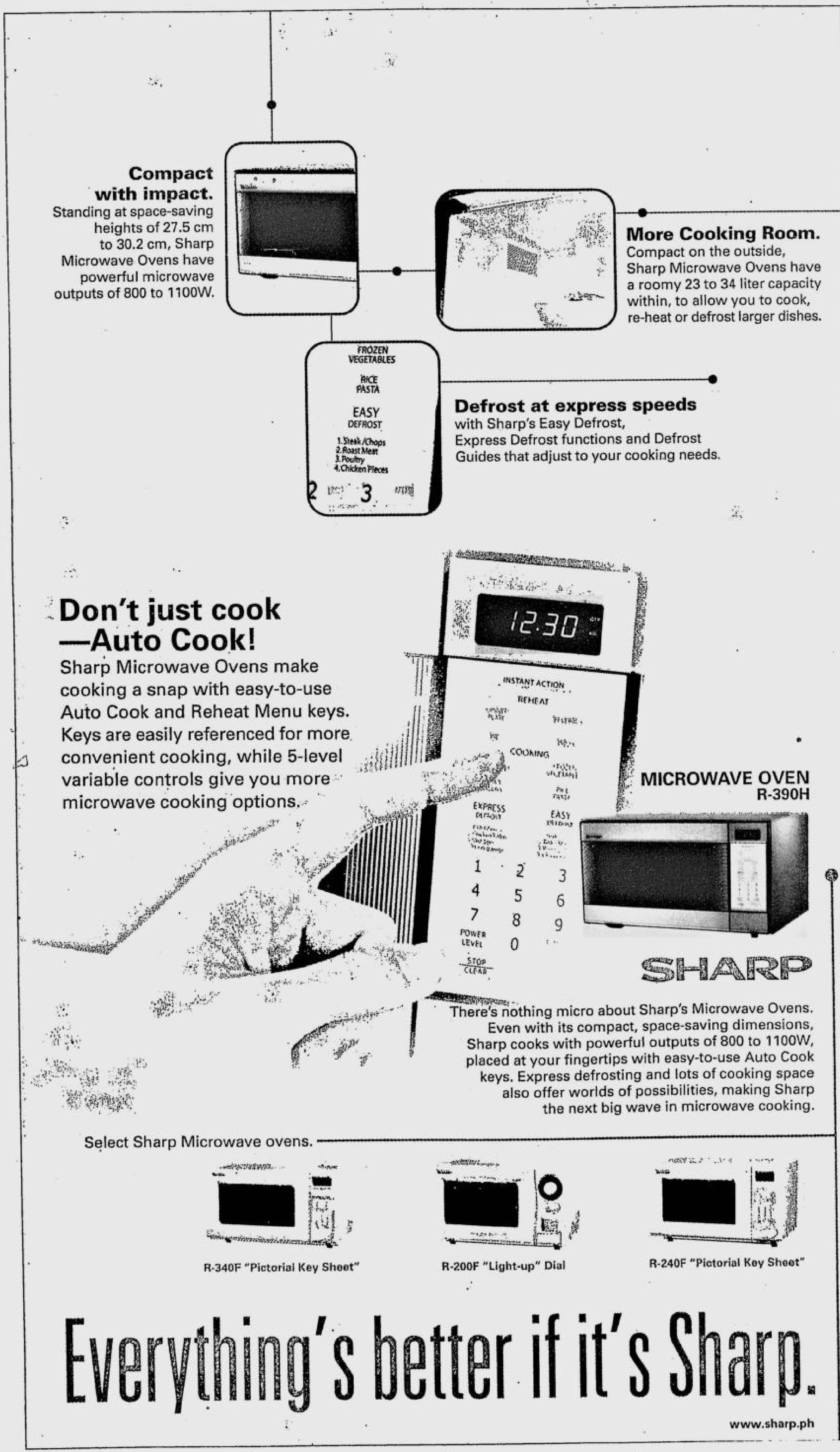
The course, specially designed for the city's traffic enforcers, stressed the importance of providing them "with the necessary skills to be the best in being a law enforcer."

The institute cited a study conducted at a major United States university that said the majority of people form their impressions of others based on physical, non-verbal images, including appearance and body language.

The course covered poise, posture, body language dynamics, grooming and communication skills.

The training also included decorum in public places and special occasions, dealing with difficult clients, techniques for conversational appeal and maintaining poise and courage under fire.

At the end of the training, traffic enforcers were given free grooming services from the institute's grooming experts.



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No site in sight for Malabon folk

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

JUST when the relocation plan had been ironed out, old and new problems are catching up with 4,000 Malabon City residents to be displaced by the Northrail Project.

Some residents had earlier agreed to be relocated to a proposed site in nearby Valenzuela City, but the Valenzuela City government said it was not ready to accommodate them.

Complaints

Now residents are being asked to move to a site in Barangay Panghulo that they had previously rejected.

National Housing Authority officer-in-charge Jopet Sison told the INQUIRER that the latest hitch would not affect the scheduled clearing operation in the affected area in Malabon City early next month.

But many residents are complaining.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had earlier ordered the immediate construction of the first segment of the Northrail project that would connect Caloocan City to Malolos, Bulacan.

The project was originally scheduled to be constructed in April, but the relocation of the affected families is being blamed for the delay.

Rejections

After three sites had been rejected, things brightened up early this month when Malabon City residents finally agreed to be relocated to Barangay Bignay, Valenzuela City.

But Valenzuela City Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian said they would have none of it.

"Barangay Bignay is not ready. The city cannot provide their needs right away," Gatchalian told the INQUIRER.

Malabon City Mayor Canuto Oreta then suggested a site in Barangay Panghulo that was offered to the city by its owner.

The site, beside a subdivision, is near a school and a public market, Oreta said.

However, the same site had been earlier rejected by some residents because the area is underwater. Improving the area would also be costly.

Members of at least two organizations of affected families have already agreed to be relocated to the Panghulo site.

Other organizations, on the other hand, remain unconvinced.

"*Gusto nila kaming ilipat sa dagat, hindi sa lupa*, (They want to relocate us to the sea)," community leader Clarita Eneria told the INQUIRER, referring to the Panghulo site.

ANAHAW AWARDEE. Navotas Mayor Toby Tiangco (right) was awarded the First Bronze Anahaw Leaf Medal recently by Commodore Victor Parawan, Commander of the Naval Reserve Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Tiangco, commander of the 202nd Naval Reserve Squadron, received the award in recognition of his meritorious and invaluable achievements as squadron member.

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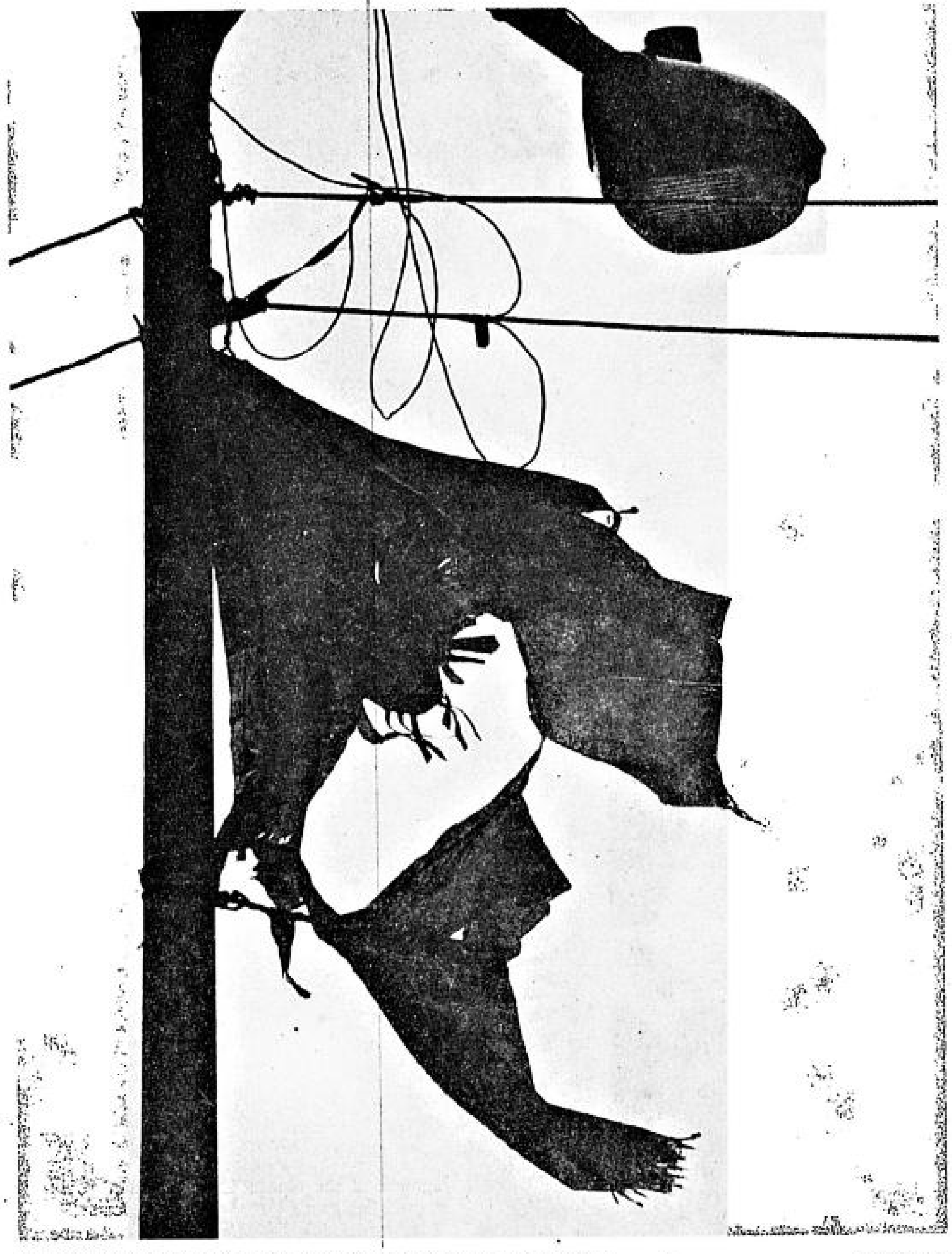
No rally 'round tattered flags on C-5



TATTERED Philippine flag on C-5 flyover: Apathy and no sympathy

JOAN BONDOC

By Luige A. del Puerto

THOUSANDS of motorists pass every day through C-5, one of the busiest thoroughfares in Metro Manila.

Yet hardly anyone seems to notice six tattered Philippine flags that hang on poles along the center isle at the foot of the Ortigas flyover on the Pasig City side.

Or if they did, no one bothered to do anything about it. Except for Gerry F. Quisumbing, a business executive who drives daily through the flyover on his way to his Makati office.

Torn, faded and grimy, it is difficult to discern that these are the country's colors.

Quisumbing asked the INQUIRER if it could do something about the sorry state of the flags.

"Good governance starts with doing the simple doable things like respecting our flag," he said.

"I don't want to pick a fight on this issue but the despicable and unconscionable way some local officials treat our flag, the symbol of our country, is hard to accept," Quisumbing added.

Two days after the INQUIRER published a photo of the tattered flags on its front page on Wednesday, Quisumbing sent a text message to the INQUIRER desk. "Flags are still there. Pathetic sight but local authorities have no urgency to remove them.'"

Does anyone still care?

A taxi driver, Virgilio Bulanad, 31, said it pained him to see the condition of the flags on C-5.

"*Binaboy* (it cheapened the meaning of the flag)," he said in disgust.

"If a flag is a symbol of unity, then these flags clearly show how disunited we are," he said.

Bulanad suggests that if a fund is set aside to buy new flags, then there should also be money to replace the old ones.

He added that the flags should be hoisted only during a celebration of a meaningful event in our country's history. "They should immediately be put away for safekeeping until the next occasion, if we cannot take care of them," he said.

The tattered flags are indicators of the Filipinos' attitude toward their sense of nation, according to Jose Mari Bartolome, a media practitioner who is also a psychologist.

They may also be a reminder of how things are today.

"How we relate to symbols such as flags depends on our experiences. My father in-law, a war veteran, proudly displays the flag every Independence Day. It means a lot to him because it encapsulates what he went through in his life," he explained.

"But now, our economy is not doing well. We have not won a medal in the Olympics. You go to a government office where Philippine flags are prominently displayed and, chances are, you would be given the run around. Some government employees may even ask money from you. You look at the flags there, and you relate differently to them," he added.

No one could tell when, who or what government agency placed the flags on the major highway.

"It is usually the Department of Public Works and Highways or the Metro Manila Development Authority that puts up these flags on highways," said Henry Ortiz, of the National Historical Institute's Heraldry and Display Section who thanked the INQUIRER for telling them about the flags.

The unit is in charge of a flag's proper use, color and display. One of its functions is to see to it that a flag is accorded all the respect it deserves.

Ortiz said flags must be replaced by the government unit that put them there when they have lost their color. When the concerned unit is not able to do so, the NHI steps in to take the flag away.

IN THE KNOW

THE FLAG and Heraldic Code of the Philippines (RA 8491) prescribes that a worn-out National Flag should not be thrown away but should be solemnly burned to avoid misuse or desecration. The law also provides that the National Flag shall be replaced immediately when it begins to show signs of wear and tear.

The National Historical Institute, the government agency tasked to implement the law and its implementing rules and regulations, has the power to deputize, assign or designate any government department, agency, office or government instrumentality, including government corporations and local government units, for assistance as it may deem necessary for the effective discharge of its functions. It can even call upon the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police for help in its tasks.

Any person or juridical entity found violating any of the law's provisions shall be fined not less than P5,000 nor more than P20,000, or be imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court. For additional offenses, both fine and imprisonment shall be imposed. *PDI Research*

Source: Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines (RA 8491)

An arcade, not a casino—Atienza

By Tarra V. Quismundo

NOT A casino but a slot machine arcade.

Faced with protests against the pending operation of another gaming facility in his city, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said yesterday that there was nothing to worry about the new attraction.

"It's not a casino. It's just an arcade. There's a world of a difference," said Atienza, referring to the much-criticized operation of the facility on Gandara Street, Binondo.

Civic groups had resisted the operation of a Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) casino in Binondo Suites, a hotel in the busy downtown area.

Yesterday, supporters of the community-based Kilusan Kontra Sugalan massed up in front of the Binondo Suites, appealing to city officials to stop the opening of the gambling venue which they said would bring in the destructive culture of gambling to the community and teach its residents, especially children, the wrong values.

But Atienza said the "arcade" would not offer card games and "unlimited gambling for businessmen" as a casino would.

"The arcade has slot machines where you would only spend coins. You will not lose a lot, and it's just for recreation. It's only light gambling," Atienza said.

PAGCOR said that the "recreation facility" would operate slot machines for VIPs, and only allow patrons 21 years old and above.

Benefits

"We are looking at it with an open mind. We understand the people's sentiments and we can bend a little. The city would benefit from it," said Atienza.

He added that PAGCOR had promised to gift the city with the development of Gandara and Ongpin Streets, and the Plaza Lorenzo Ruiz, a park in front of Binondo Church.

The city also gets P10 million a month for hosting PAGCOR's amusement facilities. *With Leila B. Salaverria*

Taguig tightens crime watch

By Nancy C. Carvajal

TAGUIG officials and police are working in hand in hand to wage an all-out war against criminality, following the spate of killings in Maharlika Village .

A Muslim leader and a Bantay Bayan member were gunned down in separate incidents recently. "The killings are offshoots of the prevailing war among Muslims in the area," said Taguig police chief, Supt. Ramon Reyes, adding that these could also be related to drug trafficking.

Checkpoints would be set up in all entry and exit points to and from Maharlika Village towards adjacent barangays such as Signal Village, Upper Bicutan and Lower Bicutan, police said.

A composite team from the Taguig Security Force and police community precincts would man the checkpoints.

"An improved peace and order situation goes hand in hand with increased economic activities," said Mayor Sigfrido Tinga.

Actor, pals hurt in accident

By Luige A. del Puerto

FOUR persons, including actor Victor Neri, were hurt in a car accident Thursday night in Pasig City.

Neri suffered minor bruises when the car he was driving hit an electric post on Meralco Avenue around 9 p.m.

His companions, Janer Abenoja, Joseph Galiego and Janice Lam were also hurt.

Neri tried to steer clear of a rock in the middle of the street and had lost control of the wheel, the other passengers of the vehicle told police.

Neri and his companions were rushed to the New Medical City near the Ortigas Center for treatment. SPO4 Josue Mero told the INQUIRER that the four "seemed to be fine."

"But no one has yet given any statement about what actually happened that night," he said, adding that he was unable to talk to Neri, who left the hospital after treatment.

Lament of a young woman into cyber sex

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

TO THE young women who use the internet: Don't engage in cyber sex with your boyfriends. You might find your private parts laid bare in public.

Cyber sex is no different from phone sex. But cyber sex is technologically more advanced than phone sex because both partners see each other through the web camera.

Gwen (not her real name), 23, a college graduate, regrets what she did during her cyber sex with her former boyfriend, Randy, 25, owner of an internet café in Imus, Cavite. Gwen opened up her most private parts and faced the web camera during her cyber sex with Randy, not knowing that he recorded everything.

After breaking up with Randy, her pictures appeared on the web. The most embarrassing is the picture of her private parts. Randy made good his threat that he would expose her if she didn't agree to a reconciliation.

She sought my help at "Isumbong Mo Kay Tulfo" after she received immoral propositions from males from overseas since Randy gave out her address and phone number on the internet.

The National Bureau of Investigation, to which I referred Gwen's plight, is gathering evidence against Randy. One piece of evidence is the phone conversation between Gwen and Randy taped by my all-female staff. I don't know if it could be used as evidence.

***

A guy named Lutero at the Department of Health reportedly issues permits and accreditations indiscriminately to drug testing centers for drivers. But Lutero's "blessing" doesn't come cheap: from P100,000 to P200,000, my sources said. Most of these centers issue fraudulent results to persons applying for a driver's license who don't undergo drug tests. The result: Many drivers are drug addicts and are therefore a road menace.

Most of the drug testing centers operate without doctors and medical technologists. And yet they're not periodically checked by the DOH.

Many of these drug testing centers are located at the Land Transportation Office (LTO) branch at the Coastal Mall.

The LTO-South agency should be transferred to another location that is enclosed.

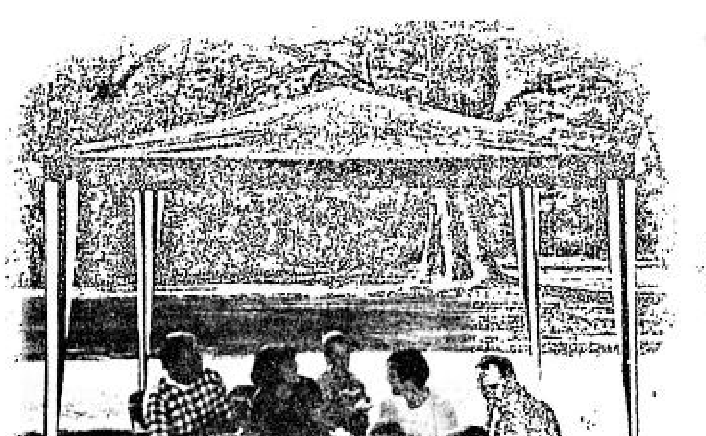
The Coastal Mall is crowded with shoppers. Applicants for licenses freely mix with the customers, so there is confusion. Some drug testing centers take advantage of the confusion by issuing fraudulent results that are submitted by "fixers" to LTO employees.

LTO chief Annali Lontoc should have the LTO-South office transferred.

But Lontoc seems to be groping in the dark months after taking over from retired police Gen. Roberto Lastimoso.

***

(I will be back in two weeks after my annual vacation leave.)



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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

RP gets nod of SEAG neighbors

BANGKOK—The assurance by the Philippines on its hosting of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games has been warmly accepted by 10 NOCs (National Olympic Committee) in the Southeast Asian region.

This was announced yesterday by SEA Games Federation president Celso L. Dayrit, who presided over an informal caucus here on Wednesday.

Dayrit conveyed to his fellow officials from Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, East Timor, Cambodia and Indonesia the message of Philippine SEA Games Organizing Committee (Philsoc) chair Roberto Pagdanganan, who said that President Macapagal Arroyo is fully supporting the event in the interest of the youth in the region.

The federation is the governing body of the SEA Games. It is scheduled to meet again in Manila on Oct. 11-12 to finalize the sports to be included in the meet.

So far, 34 sports have already been approved by the federation, but other NOCs are still lobbying for the inclusion of some sports.

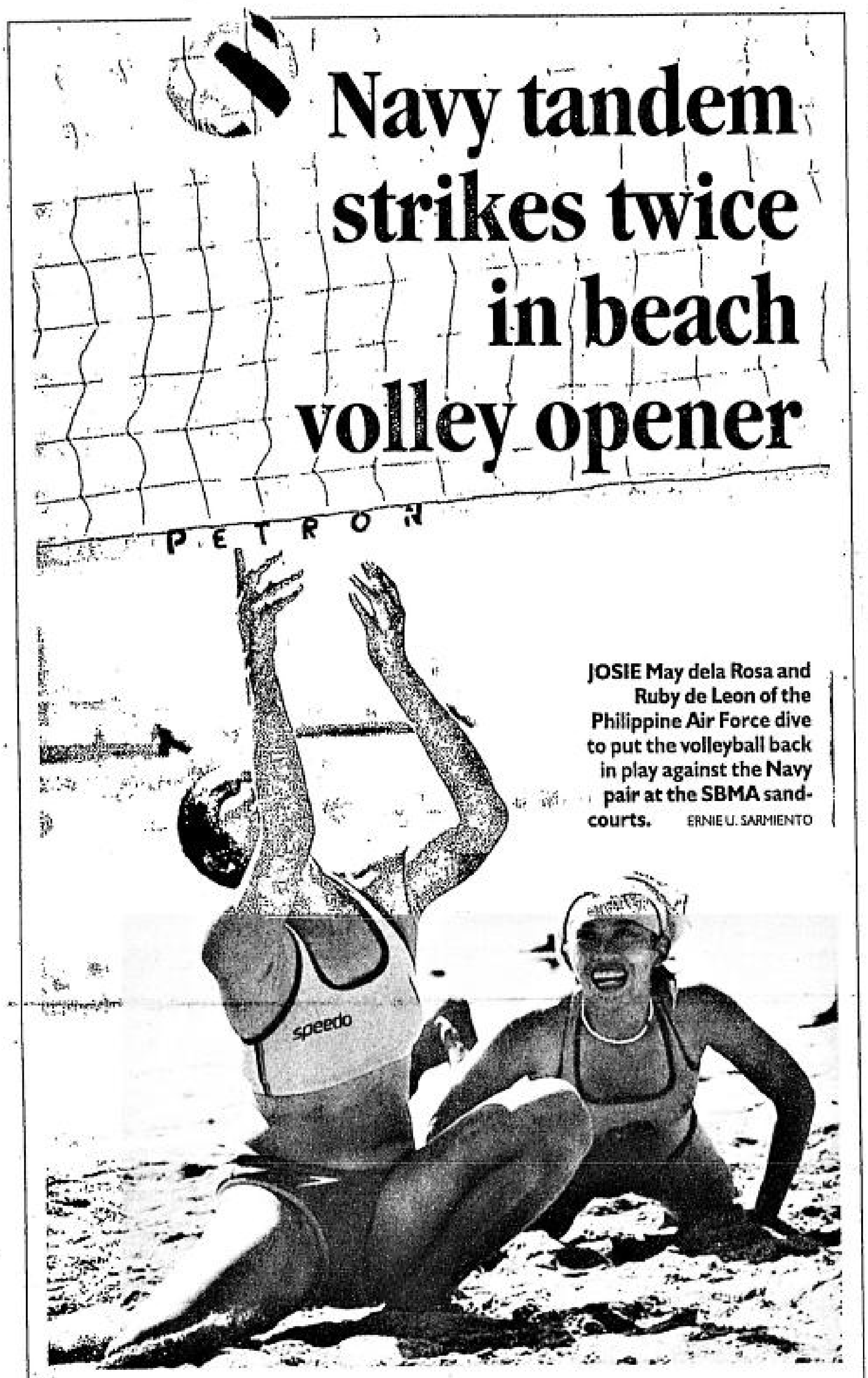
Dayrit assured the other NOCs that, without sacrificing the quality of competitions, Philsoc will have to manage the organization cost in order to achieve cost effectiveness.

"Our friends from other NOCs understand our situation and we are happy to receive their gesture of support," Dayrit said. "Vietnam, for instance, is offering to lend some of their modern equipment used in the last SEA Games. This will definitely reduce our expenses. We can use the savings to train the athletes."

Malaysia and Thailand have also expressed their desire to help in the organization of the 2005 Games, according to Dayrit.

"The SEA Games Federation is ready to assist the Filipino people and the government in organizing the games,'" he said.

Navy tandem strikes twice in beach volley opener



JOSIE May dela Rosa and Ruby de Leon of the Philippine Air Force dive to put the volleyball back in play against the Navy pair at the SBMA sandcourts. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

SUBIC—Philippine Navy's Michelle Laborte and Cecille Tabuena immediately installed themselves as the pair to beat by scoring two impressive wins yesterday at the start of the third leg of the 2004 Petron Ladies' Beach Volleyball Tournament at the sandcourts near the Boardwalk here.

With vigor in their spikes and spring on their legs, Laborte and Tabuena dumped the veteran tandem of Lou Maranon and Teresa Lopez, 21-8, then returned an hour later to down Teresa de Leon and Rubie de Leon, 21-14.

"We just played our usual game, although for this tournament, we improved our conditioning by keeping ourselves fit," said Laborte, who teamed up with Tabuena to emerge as beach volleyball champions of the National Open last May in Baguio City.

In other results, Almalia Shalim and Rowena Alcayde turned back Gamela Ann Septo and Jessica Ticala, 21-18, while Joan Namuco and Michelle Pinero thumped Roma Cyril Jaro and Joyce Realeza, 21-14, in the two-day meet also sponsored by Universal Motors Corp., Isuzu Phils. Corp. and VIA Events and Sports.

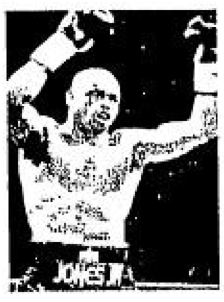
Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Felicito Payumo made the ceremonial serve to start the competition.

"SBMA has always been a partner in sports development," said Payumo. "We welcome with open arms noble undertakings such as this."

Tisha Abundo, the former commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission and tournament organizer, said the tournament winner will receive P10,000, with the runner-up getting P5,000.

The top two teams get automatic berths to the Petron Volleyball National Finals in December, which will feature past champions of the series in a grand finale.

WHAT'S INSIDE



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■ Russian grand slam champs set China Open semifinal matchup /A28

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Ria blows LPGA bid

QUIAZON: Out of it after an 81

RIA QUIAZON shot an 81 and all but bowed out of the LPGA's sectional qualifying at Mission Hills in Florida on Friday even as Wendy Martin continued to lead after submitting a steady 71.

Quiazon, who had earlier rounds of 71 and 75, crashed back to earth and now stood second to last in the 75-player field that made the 36-hole cut.

Paula Creamer bounced back from a 77 Thursday with a 67, jumping from 21st into a tie for second with a 211 total, just two strokes behind Martin, who fired an ace in the second round for a tournament-best 64.

Only the top 30 scores and ties after the final round today will advance to the Final Qualifying Tournament scheduled in Venice, Florida, in December.

Heide Chua missed the cut earlier after a 77 and a 75.

Meanwhile, Fil-American Dorothy Delasin got off to a shaky start in the LPGA's Longs Drugs Challenge, shooting a three-over 74 at The Ridge Golf Course in Auburn, California.

Delasin had four bogeys against a solitary birdie to trail leader Christina Kim, who fired a 64, by 10 shots. Rachel Teske stood in second after a 65. *Musong R. Castillo*

Revival of Fil-fors' case 'to benefit pro league'

By June Navarro

DUREMDES PDI PHOTO

WHILE others have lost interest pushing the case against foreign players who gained Filipino citizenship through allegedly fraudulent means, Sta. Lucia Realty's Kenneth Duremdes is pursuing the issue together with his teammates and the entire FedEx squad.

"Some players feel that the case against the 'Fil-shams' is a losing battle. They have lost hope because of the snail-paced proceedings," explained Duremdes yesterday.

Duremdes, the MVP in 1998, stressed that his group is reviving the case not only for themselves but for the future generation of local dribblers yearning to play in the PBA.

"Every child who loves basketball has been dreaming of playing in the PBA. We are doing this for them. These Fil-shams should be gone before we retire," he said.

"We don't want the next generation of basketball players to blame us for not doing anything against these fake Fil-fors so we'll see to it that this case reaches its finality."

As it is, Duremdes stressed, the fake Fil-fors are already robbing local talents of the chance to play in the pro league.

Nine Fil-fors led by the popular Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text had already been recommended for summary deportation by the Senate Committee on Games, Amusements and Sports last year for falsifying their citizenship documents.

Also recommended for deportation by the Bureau of Immigration were Red Bull's Mick Pennisi, Davonn Harp and John Ordonio, Dorian Peña of San Miguel Beer, Coca-Cola's Rafi Reavis and Rudy Hatfield, and Andy Seigle and Alex Crisano of Barangay Ginebra.

But the justice department is said to have sat on the BI request for revocation of the citizenship it had issued to the nine players.

In the absence of the withdrawal of citizenship, the BI couldn't touch the players, who continued to play. Taulava later on won the PBA's Most Valuable Player award for 2003.

With Duremdes and his group bringing the Fil-fors case into the open recently, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez announced the other day the creation of a special committee to review the citizenship cases of the nine.

TODAY ...
A NEW LEAGUE IS BORN !

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All the best, Mon

THE LAST time we talked, Ramon Fernandez was telling me he needed my help.

"Pare, please help me on this?"

All the time, but what's that you are talking about, *pare*?

"Pare, I'm being asked to become the commissioner of a new basketball league," he said. "I told them, I'll study the matter and will get back to them ASAP."

The bearded basketball legend would next tell me if I could have lunch with him to help him discuss the matter further.

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

"All the time," I said. "Just say the time and place and I'll come running."

Unfortunately, we never got to sit down for lunch. Events had overrun our schedules.

The next thing I knew, he had accepted the post. And I am glad he did.

There couldn't be any person better than Ramon Fernandez to head the newly formed United Regional Basketball League (URBL). Knowing Mon, he just wouldn't accept any position without having studied the weight of the task at hand.

I had studied Mon work at close range when we were together in San Carlos City in Pangasinan last year during a basketball camp hosted by Mayor Jolly Resuello.

If it's work you want from him, you'll get it 101 percent.

He puts his heart and soul to everything he did on the court—and even off it—that the boys and girls who studied under him for two days in San Carlos City couldn't believe their eyes.

"Why, Sir Al, this is Ramon Fernandez, the Living Legend, taking time out just to be with us here," said a boy, not yet 15. "If all basketball greats are like him, youngsters all over the land who love basketball will be more than willing to join tryouts for the national team."

Oh, well, that was some kid knocking some words of wisdom into a man's coconut, huh?

I didn't mind then, and will never mind anything of that sort coming my way now and forever. I have always treated education as a two-way traffic.

I do not know much about the URBL. The little that I know about the league comes from newspaper items, like that it is a new tournament envisioned by, among others, Gov. Wilfrido Enverga of Quezon, to create hometown heroes from the countryside.

Could this be a throwback to the MBA, the one that ABS-CBN nurtured with vigor at the start, only to let go of it when the league threatened to bleed the giant network dry?

Looks like it. Which can only mean the idea of unearthing talents from the country and then transforming them from hometown stars to national idols isn't a hollow idea after all.

So, OK, Mon,. go for it. Take the lead again in spearheading the search for talent, which comes in abundance in the provinces that are aching to be tapped.

And yes, as the Beatles sang it, "Anytime At All," in case you want my help?

***

If only for the record, here's Rep. Raul T. Gonzalez Jr. of Iloilo City once again.

"Dear Mr. Mendoza,

"Respectfully inviting you to a cup of coffee, preferably Mondays up to Wednesdays, at my office in the House of Representatives, North Wing Room 206, so we can take up your ideas regarding a House Bill for our athletes.

"To assist you further, you may call and look for either Mr. Mike Advento or Ms Myreen Porras through telephone numbers 9315535 or 9315001, local 7385.

"Thank you."

I am touched, Mr. Congressman. Or shall I say, Mr. Justice Secretary?

I'm not sure now if your new position as the Secretary of Justice will still allow you to dispatch your duties as the representative of the lone district of Iloilo City. Whatever, your efforts to produce a bill for the benefit of our athletes is something that I will never forget. Maybe in the future, I'll get in touch with you, Sir. At the moment, I know you are busy acquainting yourself with the nuances of the Justice Department. Take your time.

Till then, Sir.

Pacita half marathon attracts crack field

OLYMPIAN Eduardo Buenavista, Milo Marathon champion Rey Vence, SEA Games winner Allan Ballester and long-distance marvel Julius Sermona head the crack field in the initial staging of the Pacita Half Marathon on Oct. 10 at the Pacita Complex in San Pedro, Laguna.

Billed as the Philippines' first Patafa-organized 21-K race, some 500 runners from Metro Manila and nearby provinces are expected to vie for cash prizes and trophies.

Sonny Ordona, president of the organizing Tropa Pacita, said during yesterday's SCOOP sa Kamayan that the race at the old national highway will cover the towns of San Pedro, Biñan, Sta. Rosa City and Cabuyao in Laguna.

Luzon-vs-Visayas encounters usher in new basketball series

GAMES TODAY
(New Cebu City Coliseum)
1 p.m.—Opening Ceremonies
1:30 p.m—Lactovitale-Cebu vs Quezon Huskers
3 p.m.—M. Lhuillier-Cebu City vs Ilocos Sur Snipers

CEBU CITY—A twinbill featuring the Luzon-Visayas cage rivalry launches the 1st United Regional Basketball League conference today at the New Cebu City Coliseum.

URBL commissioner Ramon Fernandez leads the opening ceremony at 1 p.m., to be aired live over ABC-5, with Cebu City Mayor Tomas R. Osmeña, Vice Mayor Michael Rama, Councilor Sylvan Jakosalem as special guests of the event sponsored by adidas Philippines.

Lactovitale-Cebu battles the Quezon Huskers at 1:30 p.m. while multititled Cebu squad M. Lhuillier clashes with North Luzon's Ilocos Sur Snipers in the main game at 3.

About 20,000 spectators are expected to witness the birth of the country's newest amateur league.

Harbour Centre-Pampanga will debut on Monday against Lactovitale-Cebu in Bogo, Cebu.

Lactovitale-Cebu, under coach Rhoel Gomez, is touted as a strong title contender with five talented veterans in point guard Derrick Bughao, Lowell Briones, 6'4 Gilbert Castillo, streak shooter Mike Orquillas and 6-foot-8 Bonel Balingit.

But the Quezon Huskers of Quezon Gov. Willie Enverga, handled by multititled Francis Rodriguez, will be powered by Jomar Tierra, Nonoy Catalan, Arnold Booker, Mel Latoreno and 6-foot-9 Vince San Diego.

"We want to start our bid for the crown with a bang," said Rodriguez.

Ilocos Sur aims to give favored M. Lhuillier a tough fight as coach Mario Quitoriano tries to squeeze the best from Johnedel Cardel, Mike Manigo, Jerome Barbosa, Dondon Mendoza and Allan Yu.

M. Lhuillier-Cebu coach Raul "Yayoy" Alcoseba will bank on Bruce Dacia, Danilo Aying, Bong Marata, Woodraw Enriquez, Aldrin Ocañada, Jessie Lumantas and Leode Garcia.

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Badminton Cup

Men's Doubles • Ladies' Doubles
Age Grouping Categories with Sub-Levels
Leveling will start at 5pm on September 25, 2004
at the Olympic Badminton Club in Libis Quezon City*

Date	Competition	Venue
October 2 and 3	Eliminations	Olympic Badminton Club. Libis QC
October 8	Celebrity Match.	Remy Field Multi-purpose Center, Subic Bay Freeport Zone
October 9	Semifinals, Finals, Awarding	

**If unable to attend leveling and for other inquiries, please contact (02) 373-3471 or (02) 373-3856 or text 0917 - 9011395 or 0918 - 4434747.*
Entry forms, game schedules and tournament guidelines can be downloaded at
www.haribon.org.ph
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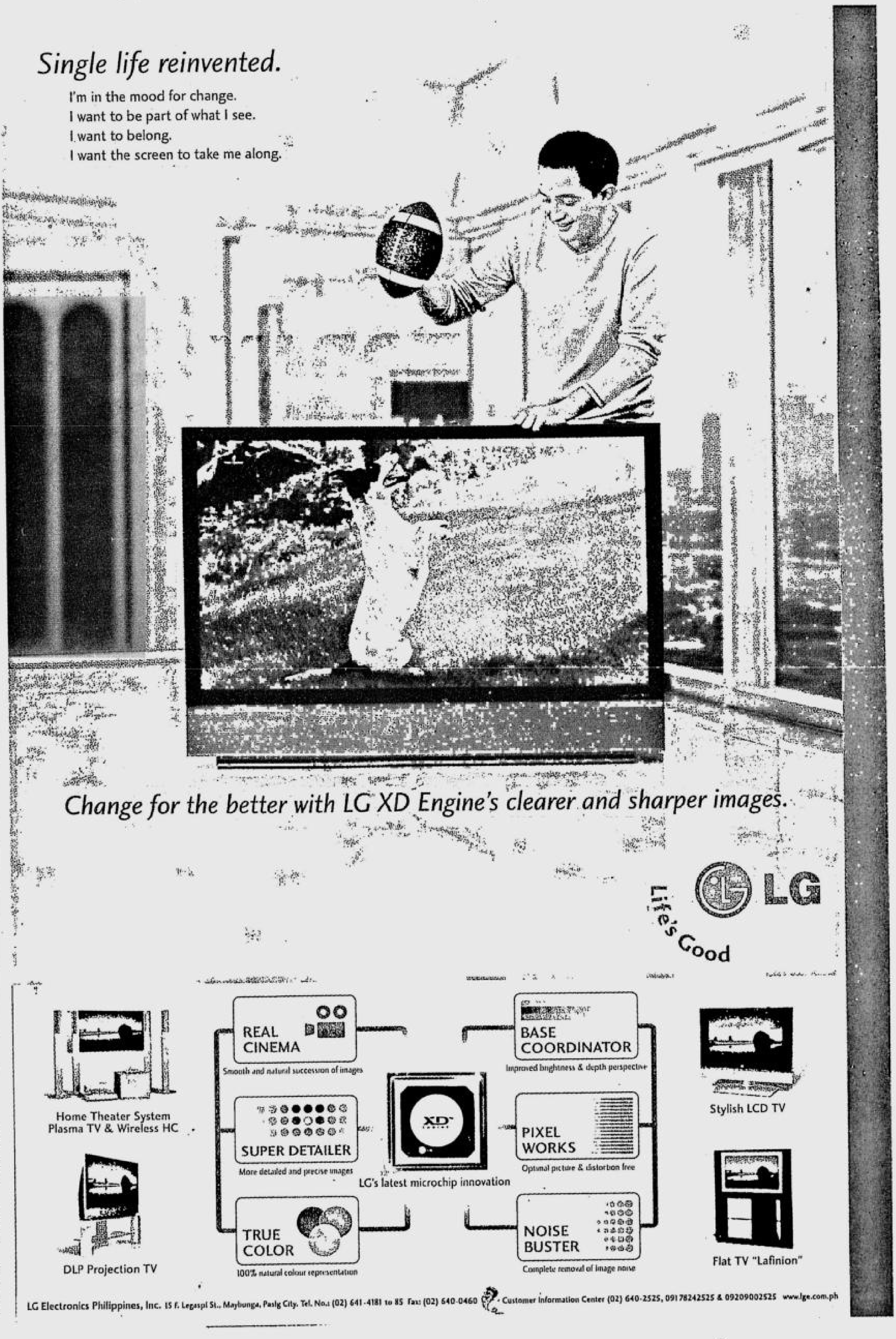
GRAND PRIZE IS A TRIP FOR 2 TO CHINA
All participants are entitled to a 50% discount on room rates at Grand Seasons Legenda Hotel at Subic Bay



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ROY JONES sees his next match as a chance to stand on top of the world anew.

Jones sees fresh be in Memphis tiff vs J

MEMPHIS, Tennessee—Roy Jones Jr. sees his fight with Glen Johnson as a new beginning.

"It starts right here," Jones said of Saturday's fight, adding he has no thoughts of retirement at age 35.

"I'm too good for that," he said.

Jones is going after Johnson's IBF light heavyweight title after losing his own WBC crown in May to Antonio Tarver.

After building one of the best records of his generation, Jones went down ingloriously to a crashing left from Tarver.

But he sought to brush that off Thursday at a news conference for the fight with Johnson at Memphis' FedExForum, the new $250 million home of the National Basketball Association's Memphis Grizzlies.

"You can knock me down, but you'd better put me cold asleep because when I get up I'm coming back," Jones said.

Tarver's punch sent Jones sprawling and raised doubts about how long his outstanding career has to run.

But Jones talked like a man who sees no end soon, though he declined to predict specifically how many fights he has left.

"A lot of them," he said.

Jones accomplished the improbable in March 2003 by taking the WBA heavyweight title from John Ruiz. Then in November, he captured the light heavyweight crown from Tarver in the first of their two fights.

While Jones may have suffered a sore jaw in his loss to Tarver, his cockiness seems unbruised.

"I'm a fighter. I don't have a wei sion," he said when asked about plan ture fights.

He has won titles at middleweigh per middleweight as well as ligh weight and heavyweight.

In 51 fights, he has lost two, on qualification. He has 38 knockouts.

Johnson is 40-9 with two draws a 27 knockouts. He won his title in H against European champion Clinton

Johnson said Jones may be surpri expects an easy comeback.

"I don't know what he thinks. We a right to think, but he's in for a c that he has no clue," said Johnson, of Jamaica who began boxing when 20.

Japanese close to breaking bas

ANAHEIM, California—A few years ago, Ichiro Suzuki spent three days on his own wandering around the US Baseball Hall of Fame, hoping to learn about the history of the game in America.

At this rate, he's about to become part of it.

Coming off two big games against the Angels, the Seattle Mariners right fielder is nearing one of the longest-standing offensive records in American Major League Baseball: the 84-year-old mark for most hits in a season.

After an off-day Thursday, Suzuki will go into a weekend series at Texas with 247 hits, giving him 10 games to break George Sisler's record of 257 set with the St. Louis Browns in 1920.

"I want to get my next hit. That's what I'm focusing on," Suzuki said through an interpreter, explaining that his next target is 250 hits. "It's great that I can be in this position."

Suzuki went 5-for-5 at Anaheim on Tuesday night and added four more hits in a 16-6 victory over Anaheim on Wednesday night.

Suzuki raised his average to .374, best in the big leagues. Barry Bonds was hitting .370 going into San Francisco's game against Houston on Thursday night.

How does Suzuki do it?

"If you throw him inside, he hits a bullet, and if you throw him away, he slaps it the other way or up the middle," Angels pitcher Jarrod Washburn said. "I don't know if throw a pitch he can't get a hit on. It's believe that somebody has that good eye coordination."

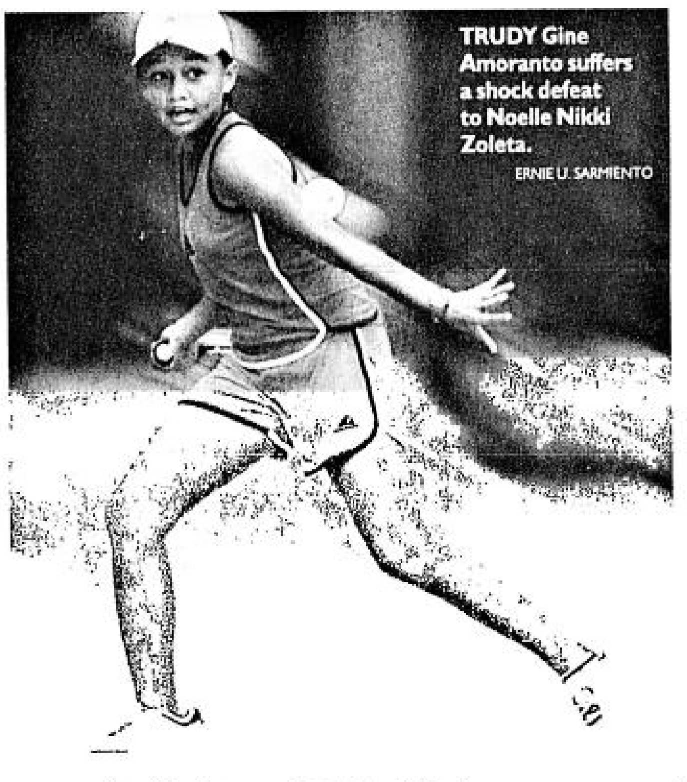
Suzuki is a singles hitter in an er power is celebrated. The 30-year-o Glove right fielder is the first player t at least 200 hits in each of his first major league seasons.

Suzuki's 909 career hits are app the MLB record for the most over a year span (918 by Bill Terry fron 1932).

But Sisler's mark is the big one.

"The man understands the histor game better than a lot of players b

Unseeded Filipinos forge ATF championship duels



TRUDY Gine Amoranto suffers a shock defeat to Noelle Nikki Zoleta.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

UNRANKED John Franco Gil Largo of Cebu City banked on a brilliant all-around game to topple top seed Pablo Olivarez II, 6-7 (7), 7-5, 6-0, yesterday and reach the boys' singles final of the Futures Foundation-Asian Tennis Federation (ATF) 14-Under Series at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Center in Pasig City.

The victory set up Gil Largo against fellow unseeded bet Francis Casey Alcantara of Cagayan de Oro, who stunned second pick El Santo Santos, 6-4, 6-2.

"My opponent was very good but I was more aggressive," said the 13-year-old Gil Largo, who won 17 titles in local junior tournaments.

Gil Largo also advanced in the doubles semifinals, teaming up with Kennex Abadia to beat third seeds Han Zhou Tan and Mohd Fazre Said of Malaysia, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4.

Gil Largo and Abadia will face the top-ranked pair of Olivarez and El Santo Santos, who prevailed over James Carl Canete and Gerard Michael Ngo, 6-0, 6-4.

Also booking semifinal berths were second seeds Min Thar Pho and Bo Zin of Myanmar, who beat Carlos Espedido and Raymond Padigos, 6-1, 6-4, and local tandem Ken Patrick Arevalo and Akio Hari Ong Sy, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5 winners over Myanmar's Kyaw Naing and local Kim Ivor Saraza.

In the girls' singles, third seed local Jessica Agra pulled off a 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 upset win over top seed Malaysian Jawariah Nordin to advance in the final against unseeded Noelle Nikki Zoleta of Lucena City, who shocked second seed local Trudy Gine Amoranto, 6-3, 6-0.

Zoleta's early victories were over No. 4 Thirumalak Neesha and No. 5 Vythinatha Chellpriya of Malaysia.

In the girls' doubles, second seeds Neesha and Chellpriya struggled past local pair Martina Rivero and Zhane Quitara, 7-5, 7-6 (4), while Zoleta and Christine Patrimonio outclassed Myanmar's Chit Thee Moe and Khaine Nyiei Thar, 6-1, 6-1, to advance to the semifinals.

Genero assure

A GROUNDSWELL of support for RP athletes competing in next year's Southeast Asian Games has been assured with the planned tapping of corporate sponsors and individuals who will act as sports godfathers.

The First Gentleman Foundation will be the lead agency in the program, as agreed upon by the Medalyang Ginto Executive Council of the FG Foundation in its recent meeting at the Philsports Complex in Pasig

The Foundation will also triotic Filipinos to contribute letes' cause to ensure the cessful staging of the 2005 S

Ramon Suzara of the Sports Commission, who pr the meeting, said the invo government entities and sector in the preparation and athletes will augur well for try's bid to snare the over onship.

The other members of th chaired by First Gentleman royo, are former Manila co Harry Angping and Tessa M the FG Foundation, Ricky L

Dacera, 13, grabs lone RP swim gold in EAGA meet

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia—The Philippines settled for a lone gold medal in swimming, which kicked off hostilities in the 4th BIMP-EAGA (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines-East Growth Area) Friendship Games yesterday at the Kota Sports Complex here.

Nikita Dacera, at 13 the youngest among the RP bets from Mindanao, distinguished himself as the country's first winner after beating his much older rivals in the men's 1,500-meter freestyle with a time of 17 minutes 39.07 seconds.

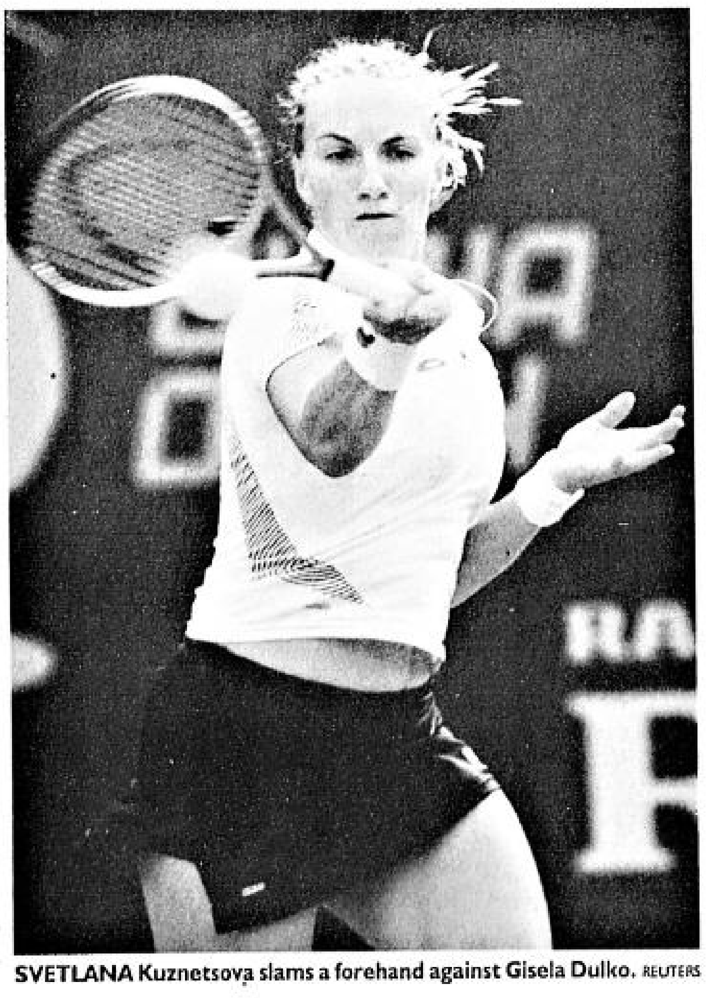
The youngster from Dadiangas, who won two bronze medals in the Asean age group championship held in Vietnam last June, finished way ahead of silver medalist Andi Gumilang of South Sulawese (17:58.65) and Sulaiman Mohamad of Sarawak, who came home third in 18:49.58.

Carlo Rodriguez of Davao City salvaged a silver in the men's 100 freestyle while Corinna Denise Rosete, Shahani Navarro, Haroon Cali and Albert Pondoc landed bronze medals.

Rodriguez broke his personal best of 57.30 seconds with a 56.51 clocking but he was no match for his Indonesian rival, who won in 54.54. Chian Ho of Sarawak was third in 58.86.

"We overcame the usual first-day jitters," said delegation head and PSC commissioner Leon Montemayor, who hails from Davao.

"Our athletes are prepared for this meet but our neighboring countries are also doing good so we don't expect a smooth campaign here," added Montemayor.



SVETLANA Kuznetsova slams a forehand against Gisela Dulko. REUTERS

Russian grand slam champs set China Open semifinal matchup

BEIJING—US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova sailed into the China Open semifinals Friday with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Argentina's Gisela Dulko.

Kuznetsova will next face fellow Russian and Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova.

Top seed Serena Williams also advanced, leading her match at 6-2, 4-1, before her opponent, Nadia Petrova, retired.

Sharapova advanced Friday after Jelena Jankovic retired with an ankle injury during the first set of their quarterfinal match.

The second-seeded Kuznetsova was in clear command of her contest, and Dulko conceded a double fault to lose the final point.

"I'm getting more used to the center court," Kuznetsova said, comparing her quick result Friday to her suspenseful three-setter the previous day against China's Li Na. "Before, nobody told me the center court was so much faster than the other courts."

Sharapova, the No. 3 seed, was leading 5-2 and preparing to serve out the set when Jankovic called for a trainer about 20 minutes into the match. When play resumed, Sharapova surged to a quick 40-15 lead before the No. 7 Jankovic had to stop playing for the day.

Jankovic said later that she had twisted her right ankle during her first-round match against Japan's Shinobu Asagoe on Wednesday. "So it was really tough for me to play today."

Sharapova has yet to face a strong challenge in the China Open singles competition, after receiving a first-round bye and cruising to a 6-1, 6-1 victory over fellow Russian Tatiana Panova in the second round.

"I was happy to play a very good set. Though she was injured, we did have some good points," Sharapova said, calling Jankovic's injury very unfortunate.

"For me, it's an advantage that the second round was easy. I liked the way I was playing and today too. I'm still enjoying myself, that's the most important thing," Sharapova added.

Looking forward to the Saturday semifinal, Kuznetsova said:

"It's going to be a difficult match. Maria is playing well and so am I. It will depend on what game she plays and what I do."

The second seed produced a performance full of baseline power, strong serving and soft touch as she posted her 13th consecutive victory in just over one hour.

Down three break points at 4-4 in the first set, Kuznetsova slammed three superb winners to get herself out of trouble. The 19-year-old world number five then broke Dulko's serve to take the set.

Dulko, the sixth seed, wilted in the second set under Kuznetsova's relentless pace and meekly ended the match with a double fault.

"I'm in good shape. I've been tired here, but I think I can handle it," said Kuznetsova, who followed up her first grand slam title with victory in Bali last week.

"I definitely think for me it's an advantage," she said.

By contrast, Williams and Kuznetsova have had to slug through tough, three-set matches. AP

MARIA Sharapova is finding t

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Johnson, also 35, said he watched the last Jones-Tarver fight.

"The thing you can see from that is anybody can get hurt. He got hit on the chin and he went down like a regular guy," Johnson said. "That goes to show you've just got to put the punch on the right spot and the job is done."

Jones began his professional career after the 1988 Olympics where it was widely believed he was robbed of the gold medal.

"This is like one of the better fights in my career for me," he said of the pending match, "because people always doubt how you deal with traumatic situations.

"To me, everything you do you're going to have ups and downs. You have a down, that's when you come back up and that's when you prove who you really are." *AP*

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here in this country," said Mariners hitting coach Paul Molitor, a Hall of Famer and member of the 3,000-hit club. "I don't think he gets too caught up in it, but I think he understands that the record is pretty special."

Suzuki remains a puzzle to many pitchers even after four seasons in the majors.

"Why has nobody been able to figure out Bonds the last few years?" Washburn said. "The great ones you just don't figure out."

After nine years as a star in Japan with the Orix Blue Wave as a .353 career hitter, Suzuki was an immediate hit with the Mariners, becoming the American League Most Valuable Player award winner and Rookie of the Year in 2001. *AP*

us support
l for RP bets

ROYO: Calls on patriots

PSC, Steve Hontiveros and Nestor Ilagan of the Philippine Olympic Committee and Philippine Sportswriters Association president Jimmy Cantor.

The beneficiaries of the FG Foundation campaign, led by all 49 gold medalists in the Vietnam SEA Games last year, will be known as "Batch 2" of Medalyang Ginto beneficiaries.

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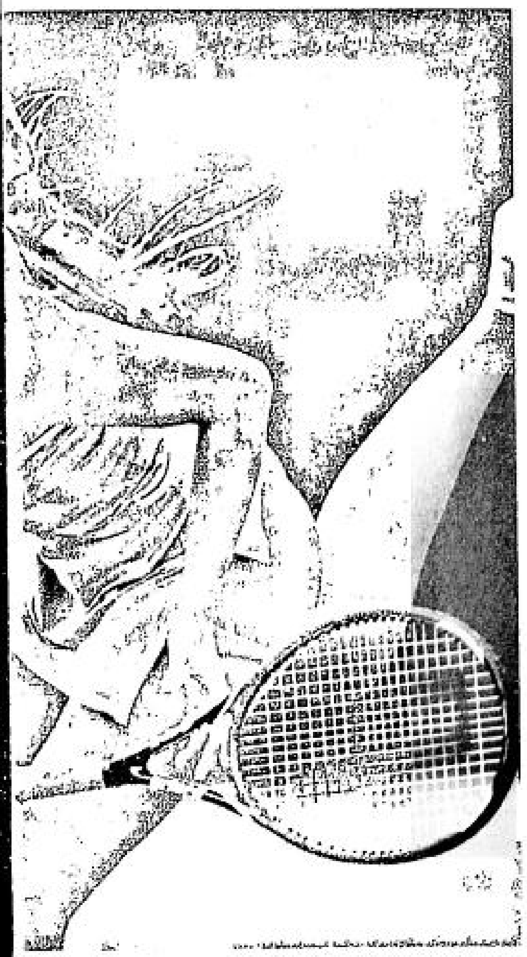
Pledging sessions will be scheduled in Malacañang in November as a follow-up to the fund-raising drive organized by First Gentleman Mike Arroyo last year that raised more than P20 million for the country's top athletes. The country's top 1000 corporations will be invited to the affair.

The list of possible sports "godfathers" are expected to be led by officials of various Rotary Clubs who will be asked to choose which event or athlete they would prefer to support.

Texting would also form part of funding for the athletes, with the Council agreeing to maximize the popularity of some athletes who could gain support from millions of cellular phone users through downloads.


hings easy so far in the tournament. AP

THINGS are still looking up for world No. 1 Vijay Singh. AP

Same old song: Singh gains first round lead

FARMINGTON, Pennsylvania—Vijay Singh shot an 8-under 64 Thursday, including an eagle and three birdies, and took a three-shot lead in the first round of the 84 Lumber Classic.

Singh can surpass Woods' season money record of $9.1 million in 2000 by winning, and with seven tournament victories, Singh is closing in on Woods' best season of nine wins.

Singh has four rounds of 65 or lower in his last five tournaments, and he agrees it would almost be impossible to play much better.

"I'm driving the ball the way I want it," Singh said after a bogey-free round that included an eagle and six birdies. "I don't know if I can hit it any better. My playing is pretty good. I'm doing the same thing over and over again."

Singh is going for his fifth victory in six tournaments, including the PGA Championship, and his third this month. He won the Deutsche Bank Championship and Canadian Open on consecutive weekends before sitting out last week.

Singh doesn't want to call it perfection.

"Today I was pretty close," he said. "I'm swinging the club as good as I think I can."

Singh leads Richard S. Johnson, Pat Perez, Cameron Beckman, Ben Curtis and Robert Allenby by three shots, with Kevin Na three back through No. 15 when play was stopped by darkness.

"He sure looks like he is on a roll like Tiger was a few years back," said Billy Andrade, who shot a 3-under 69. "I think if you polled all the players and say would anybody get to the level that Tiger Woods was back at a couple of years ago, probably everybody would have said, 'How can you get better than this?' And now Vijay seems to be on a run like that." *AP*

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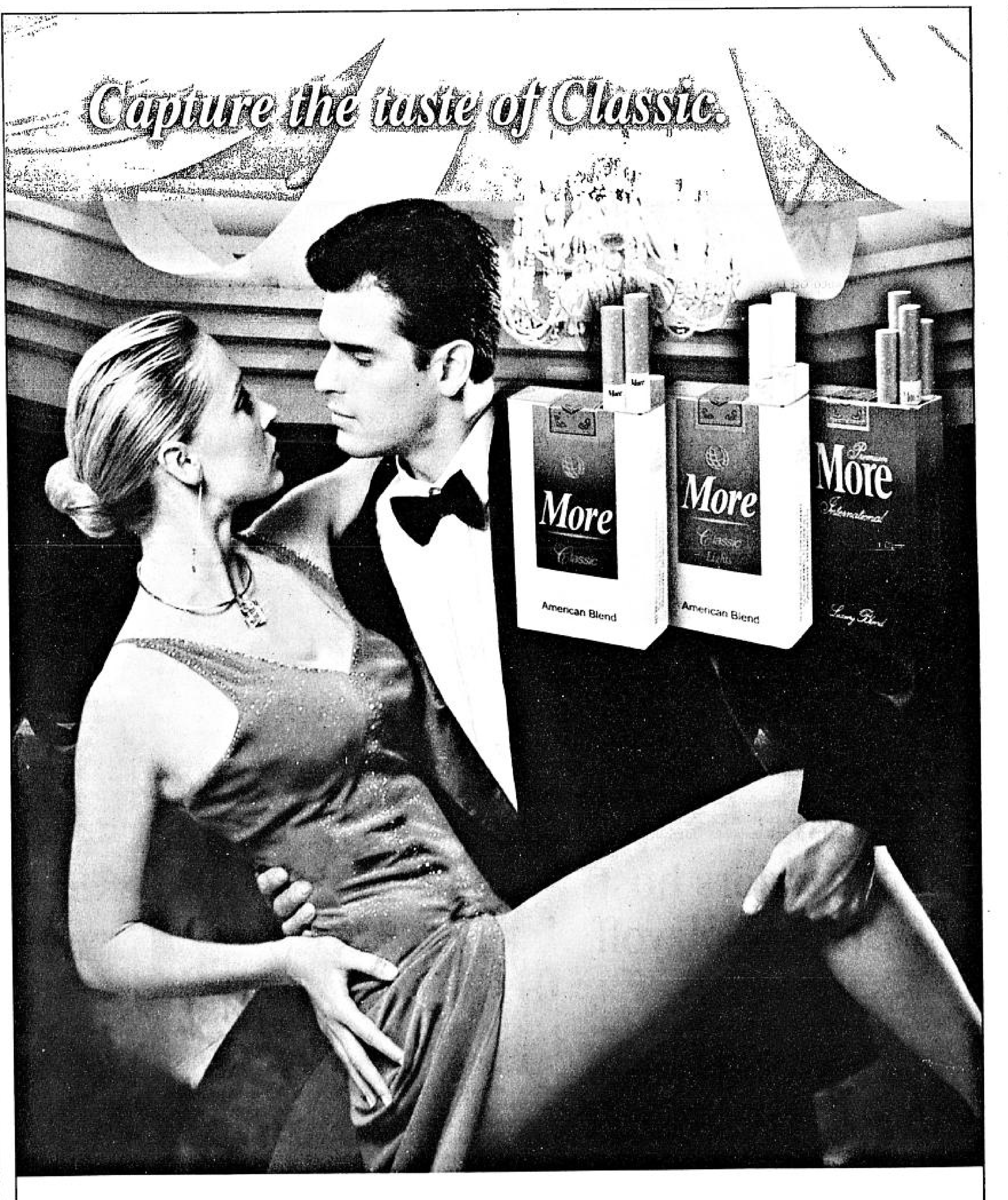

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Philtobo Grand Day features 6 championship races

NO less than six divisional championship races will be disputed on Oct. 17 at the Santa Ana Park as the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization stages the 5th Philtobo Grand Championship Day.

The six championship races include the Mitra Cup Futurity Championships for nominated two-year-old colts and two-year-old fillies; the Philtobo 3YO Colts and 3YO Fillies Championships for outstanding graduates of the 2002 Philtobo Horse Show, the centerpiece Philtobo Classic for seasoned stakes campaigners and graduates of the first four Philtobo Horse Shows as well as the Philtobo Imported Race.

Final entry declaration has been set for Monday at the PRCI Racing Department.

Among the early favorites in the six divisions are Real Spicy and War Alert in the 2YO Colts; stablemates Eye Candy, Lamborghini and One Vision in the 2YO Fillies; Empire King in the 3YO Colts; Cover Girl in the 3YO Fillies; High Octane and Success Story in the Classic and Key Apo in the Imported Race.

A major highlight of the Philtobo Championship Races is the annual Philtobo Horse Show, a yearly showcase of more than a hundred select yearlings from the country's leading thoroughbred breeding farms initiated by Philtobo's founding chair—the late Speaker Ramon "Monching" Mitra.

The seventh edition of the Philtobo Horse Show has been set for Nov. 15 at the Santa Ana Park.

As a tribute to the Palawan lawmaker, the two futurity championship races for two-year-olds have been named as the Mitra Cup Races.

Philtobo president Bienvenido "Nonoy" Niles Jr. said he is inviting racing fans to support the staging of the Philtobo Grand Championship Day and the Philtobo Horse Show.

Other officials of Philtobo are Don Antonio Floirendo (chair emeritus), Antonio Lagdameo (chair), Francisco Cayco (vice president), Jose Ferdinand Rojas II (corporate secretary), Jesus Cantos (treasurer) and directors Augusto de Jesus, Eduardo Gonzalez, Ernesto Logarta Jr., Edmond Moreno, Honorato Neri, Felizardo Sevilla Jr., Mariano Tirona, Michael Trillana, Manuel Viray and Albert Yam.

Gonzales, Laylo pace Olympiad slots chase

TOUR OF SPAIN WINNER: Spain's Javier Pascual Rodriguez raises his arms after crossing the finish line to win the 18th stage of the Tour of Spain cycling race from Bejar to Avila on Thursday. REUTERS

TAGAYTAY City—International Master Jayson Gonzales and National Master Darwin Laylo downed separate foes in the ninth round Thursday night to share the lead in the National Chess Championships at the Tagaytay International Convention Center here.

Gonzales, an enlisted member of the Army, beat NM Mirabeau Maga in 29 moves of a King's Indian Attack while Laylo defeated Surigao's Fame Fazon in 28 moves of a Trompovsky to tally similar 6.0 points.

"To win two straight (games) after a loss is good for my confidence. It means my focus is there," said Gonzales, who beat NM Rodolfo Diaz Jr. in the eighth after losing to Fide Master Fernie Donguines in the seventh.

The top three in the men's division and the top four in the women's class of the tournament will join the RP delegation bound for next month's Chess Olympiad in Majorca, Spain.

WNM Aices Salvador claimed solo leadership in the distaff side after downing erstwhile co-leader WNM Christine Castellano in the sixth round after 32 moves of a Queen's Pawn game to push her total to 4.5 points.

Chasing the male leaders were IM Chito Garma, FM Fernie Donguines, NM Emmanuel Senador and 17-year-old NM Oliver Barbosa.

Took a bye

Garma took a bye in the ninth after scoring 5.5 points in eight games, Donguines saw his four-game run snapped by Senador in 35 moves of a Sicilian-Smitch Morra Gambit and Barbosa nipped NM Rolando Nolte after 40 moves of a Nimzo Indian Defense.

Top seed and reigning Asian Zonal champion IM Ronald Dableo stayed in the hunt after handing NM Roland Joseph Perez another setback in 39 moves of a Sicilian Defense.

Other games saw IM Petronio Roca beat NM Leonardo Carlos and Diaz dealt 10-year old Wesley So his second straight loss.

Other women's division games saw top seed WIM Beverly Mendoza and WFM Sheerie Joy Lomibao prevail over Loreshyl Cuizon and Chardine Cheradee Camacho, respectively. Mendoza and Lomibao carried 4.0 points to occupy second to third.

WNM Carmelita Abanes hurdled WNM Kathryn Ann Cruz; Daisy Rivera trounced WNM Carmelita Alvarez; and WIM Cristine Rose Mariano edged Mary Grace Castro in other matches.

Handling the black pieces, Gonzales, a Vietnam Southeast Asian Games veteran, gained the initiative in the middle game after Maga hung his pawn on d3. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Standings

Men's after Round 9: IM Gonzales, NM Laylo 6.0; IM Garma, FM Donguines, NM Senador, NM Barbosa 5.5; IM Nadera, IM Roca, NM Nolte 5.0; IM Dableo, NM Diaz, So 4.0; FM Sales, NM Carlos 3.0; NM Maga 2.0; NM Perez, Fazon 1.5

Women's after Round 6: WNM Salvador 4.5; WIM Mendoza, WFM Lomibao 4.0; WNM Castellano, WNM Abanes, Rivera 3.5; Cuizon 3.0; WIM Mariano, WNM Cruz, Camacho 2.5; WNM Alvarez 1.0; Castro 0.5

Fistiana highlights Sarreal birthday at Elorde's tonight

By Salven L. Lagumbay
Contributor

FOUR international prizefight titles are up for grabs in today's 100th birth anniversary of Lope Sarreal Sr., acknowledged "Grand Old Man of Philippine Boxing," which will be celebrated with a fight extravaganza at the Elorde Ballroom in Parañaque.

Promoter Gabriel "Bebot" Elorde Jr., grandson of the late Papa Sarreal, said the event, dubbed "WBF Showdown," will be graced by the president of the World Boxing Foundation, Mick Croucher of Australia.

Sarreal, fight promoter and matchmaker non-pareil in his time, produced a total of 22 world champions of different nationalities, led by his legendary son-in-law Flash Elorde, Saensak Muangsurin, unbeaten Masao Ohba, and Ricardo Arredondo of Mexico.

"This event will keep alive the memory of our dear Papa Sarreal," said Bebot Elorde.

Heading the list of protagonists is Filipino Sukarno Banjao, ranked No. 10 by the WBF, who shoots for the vacant flyweight title against Indonesia's Yongki Afrizal, ranked WBF No. 8.

Filipino Rey Pelonia, WBF No. 10, fights Indon Ferri Wirawan, WBF No. 9, for the vacant WBF welterweight title.

Mark Sales and Celso Danggod clash for the vacant superfly crown, while Benjie Sorolla of Marty Elorde Stable takes on Rey Orais for the vacant minimumweight tiara.

Iloilo Warriors host CdO stars in playoff

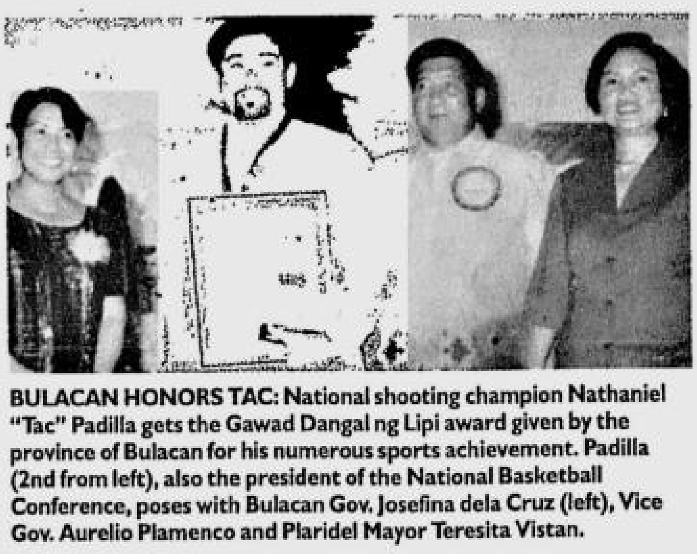
PLAYOFF in the NBC (National Basketball Conference) national championship begins today with the Iloilo Warriors hosting the Cagayan de Oro Stars at the University of San Agustin gym.

The Warriors only have to hurdle the Stars in their 6 p.m. contest to earn the right to play the Ozamiz Cotta in a best-of-three series. If the Stars triumph, they will face the Warriors anew tomorrow.

The Stars finished the eliminations with a 2-12 record, while the Warriors, backed by the Iloilo Basketball League led by businessman Robert Uy, posted a 6-8 slate.

The Warriors are favored simply because they had beaten the Stars in their two previous meetings—86-84 in overtime and 85-67—in the tournament.

The Warriors had a blistering start, but sputtered toward the end of eliminations.



BULACAN HONORS TAC: National shooting champion Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla gets the Gawad Dangal ng Lipi award given by the province of Bulacan for his numerous sports achievement. Padilla (2nd from left), also the president of the National Basketball Conference, poses with Bulacan Gov. Josefina dela Cruz (left), Vice Gov. Aurelio Plamenco and Plaridel Mayor Teresita Vistan.

Barako gains Brunei cagefest semis

RED Bull Barako clinched a semifinal slot in the 4th Shell Invitational basketball tournament in Brunei Thursday by whipping Purefoods, 92-67, at the national indoor stadium in Berakas.

Rico Villanueva and Davonn Harp sparkled with 22 and 19 points, respectively, as the Barakos posted their fourth straight victory.

Red Bull, which is honing up for the forthcoming PBA All-Filipino Conference together with the TJ Hotdogs, blasted the Shanghai Sharks, 88-74, Spring Cooking Oil-Laguna, 91-75, and Brunei national team, 121-104, in its first three outings.

"I'm happy with the way the team is playing," Red Bull Barako team owner George C. Chua said after team manager Tony Chua had reported the win over Purefoods.

Red Bull rested yesterday but it still has to play Jones Cup champion You Lon Twisters of Taiwan and the Hankook Raiders of South Korea in the elimination round.

Vergel Meneses and Cyrus Baguio also starred for Red Bull with 12 points each, while Rey Evangelista paced Purefoods with 17 points.

SPORTSWATCH

China GP at Comfort Zone

MICHAEL Schumacher and the Ferrari team clinched the Formula One Driver's and Constructor's titles a little too early this season. Notwithstanding the anti-climatic windup, 2004 proved to be a banner season. The very first Bahrain GP, the return of F1 to Spa-Francorchamps and Schumacher's seventh world driver's title are but a few of the many memorable events that made the world's premiere motorsport event even better. This weekend, another F1 milestone will be set when the China Grand Prix takes off at the brand-new Herman Tilke-designed circuit in Shanghai. Driving fireworks are expected from the teams and drivers when they square off for the distinction of winning China's first-ever F1 race. Watch the color and the drama of the China GP live with the Mild Seven F1 Club starting at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Comfort Zone Bar and Restaurant, Speedzone Complex, Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.The F1 Club's presentation of the China GP will start with the pre-race analysis and commentary program and end at around 4 p.m. after the trivia contest. Only guests 18 years and above will be admitted inside the Comfort Zone.

Elorde boxing gym at Festival Mall

JOHNNY Elorde, son of the legendary Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, recently opened a new branch of his boxing gym in partnership with Dors Rivilla, called Sphere, at the Festival Mall in Alabang, Muntinlupa. "Boxing students will learn the right way of having a great physical fitness program plus the chance to learn the art of self-defense," Elorde said. Located at the third level of the Festival Mall facing corporate and commerce avenue, the Elorde Boxing & Sphere gym will have its grand launch tomorrow at 3 p.m. when professional boxing bouts will be held right inside the second floor Activity Center of the mall. The fight card will be presented free to the public in cooperation with the management of Festival Mall. Aside from lady and kiddie boxers who will present their wares, grandchildren of Da Flash will also display their talents in gym workouts. Those who will enroll during the launching will receive promotional items such as free boxing and weight lessons, free boxing gloves, free trial lessons and free registration fees. Other Elorde souvenir items will also be given away.

Tribo-Escaner fight on 'Ringside'

"RINGSIDE TV boxing" today features the championship bout between Cebu's Reynald Tribo and Alex Escaner of Marty Elorde Stable for the Philippine superbantamweight division crown on ABC-5 from 5-6 pm. The 12-round bout presented by Galorde Enterprises Inc. was full of action with both protagonists exchanging heavy blows up to the last second. "Ringside," now on its second season, is hosted by Ted Lerner and was held in San Juan recently. Starting Oct. 3 (Sunday), 'Ringside' will move to its new time slot (2-3 p.m.).

Greenfield Estates sport event

AYALA Greenfield Estates opens its doors once more for another special sport and leisure event tomorrow. Golf games will be held to challenge the skills of the participants. This is a chance for aficionados to test their skills with long-range driving or putting. They can pit their playing abilities against fellow enthusiasts in friendly competition, as Ayala Greenfield Estates' driving range is designed to allow for comfortable games that are best suited for their skills. Guests can also learn the rudiments of golf, as professional golf instructor and former Philippine team member Jesse Hernandez imparts knowledge on the fundamentals of the sport. For non-golfers, amenities will allow them to experience the Ayala Greenfield Estates lifestyle first-hand. The all-weather, 18-hole, par 72 golf course, designed by renowned architect Robert Trent Jones Jr., is among its main attractions. For details, call 8485000, log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph or e-mail ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph.

FIBL MEET: The FIBL opens its fifth season with a cocktail affair today. FIBL commissioner Dilip K. Budhrani and the Indian Ambassaodr to the Philippines, Madam Navrekha Sharma, who is hosting the cocktail at her residence, are shown with the yet-to-be unveiled Ambassador's Cup.

2-way tie in NCA Stag Wars

CUTTING Edge Binangonan Balbina-BJ of the Boy Jiao-Nene Araneta combine and PPBG Mt. Panamao of Rep. Gerry Boy Espina of Biliran province and Arnold Medina emerged triumphant in the third leg of the NCA 7-Stag Derby series Monday at the Araneta Coliseum. With more than one championship in the series, Jiao and Araneta show the way in the 2004 Araneta Coliseum NCA Stagfighter of the Year (SOTY) race with 19 points. Sharing second spot are Jose Laureno and partners Reps. Espina and Medina both with 15.5 points apiece. In solo third is Efren Canlas with 14.5 points each. Completing the top five are Jet Fernando, Biboy Enriquez and Patrick Antonio (13 points each). The next derby is slated on Oct. 5 and 7 with Jun Santiago, Ito Ynares and Boy Jiao as hosts.

Breeder of the Year race begins

THE FIRST batch from 120 member-entries of the powerhouse Luzon Gamefowl Breeders Association collides today at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque as the quest for the LGBA Breeder of the Year begins. Supporting this three-day 7-stag competition are Thunderbird Power Feeds, Vitarich Corp., Lakpue Drug Inc., Excellence Gamefowl Specialists, Robichem Laboratories and Asvet Inc. Top favorites include Sonny Lagon, Jaime Arandia, Joey Lapid and Baby Canillas of San Pablo City, Dr. Ayong Lorenzo, Charlie Carlos and Dr. Ding Jose of Rizal; Dong Chung, Bagay Bros., Tony Galang, Wiliam Go, Don Neil Dela Pena of Batangas; Dax Ganzon of Laguna and Benjie Sarmiento and Peping Ricafort of Bulacan. Out to defend his title is 2003-2004 Breeder of the Year Blandy Tolentino of the San Pablo Heat entry. Action shifts to Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City on Monday for the second round of eliminations and the 4-stag championship on the 29th.

10K run for road safety and courtesy

A ROAD safety slogan-writing contest will spice up the "1st Auto Review 10K Run for Road Safety and Courtesy" slated on Oct. 10 at the CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City. This was announced by Ron de los Reyes, producer-host of NBN 4's Auto Review that marks its 10th year with the staging of the race that also includes a 5K and 3K runs. The slogan contest is open to all who want to contribute to the campaign on road safety with the selected 10 best entries to receive premium items from Mitsubishi Motors and Auto Review. Entries may be e-mailed to autoreviewmail@yahoo.com or faxed to 742-3091. Meantime registration is going on for the eight race categories: 10K Open for men and women, 5K Open for men and women, 5K Sponsors for men and women and the 3K for boys and girls 12 years old and below at No. 5 Agusan St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City. For details, call 742-0283.

Milo Marathon Baguio elims tomorrow

OUTSIDE of Metro Manila, Baguio City is the toughest elimination race to win in the annual National Milo Marathon.

The uphill terrain is back-breaking and the field is usually filled with the mainstays of the national track and field team who regularly train in the country's summer capital.

Tomorrow, the 2004 season of the country's biggest and longest-running foot race ends its regional qualifying races in Baguio City.

With defending champion Crisanto Canillo already seeded to the National Finals on Nov. 14 in Metro Manila, tomorrow's 21-K elimination will be a wide open race for runners like Alley Quisay, Michael Canillo, Rene Herrera, Godofredo Ragubo and Fernandez Sumaebay.

Former national champion Ernesto Mendoza and former regional champion Manny Bitog, who is now the PSC-Teacher's Camp director, are also joining the 21-K race.

The women's plum will be contested by Mildred Sabiano, lady boxer Librada Tamson and last year's winner, Marychiel Minas.

More than 5,000 runners are expected to answer the starting gun to be fired by Milo Sports executive Pat Goc Ong together with Rudy Biscocho, Milo Marathon national race organizer.

Cubs clinch 17th NCAA junior title

By Jasmine W. Payo

IF IT'S HIGH school basketball, you talk of the San Beda Red Cubs.

The Cubs clinched their 17th championship yesterday after blasting the Letran Squires, 88-72, in their playoff for the 80th NCAA junior basketball title at the Rizal Coliseum.

Most Valuable Player Rogemar Menor exploded for 30 points and grabbed 20 rebounds to power San Beda to its third consecutive title.

James Martinez shot 15 points, while Jay-R Taganas, the 2003 MVP who curiously won the Most Improved Player Award this season, added eight points and 13 rebounds for the Cubs.

"Menor and Taganas are the heart and soul of the San Beda team. Without them, I don't think we could have even made it to the Final Four," said coach Ato Badolato, who has won 15 titles in his 30-year stint in San Beda.

The Cubs orchestrated a 9-2 run for a 42-31 lead in the second quarter, after trailing, 23-29, at the end of the first period.

The Squires rallied behind Lucas Tagarda to pull within a point, 65-64. But San Beda opened the final quarter with a 9-0 charge for 74-64.

San Beda took Game 1, 87-77, but Letran forged the winner-take-all match after an 81-76 victory in Game 2.

The scores:

SAN BEDA 88—Menor 30, Martinez 15, Tecson 9, Victorino 8, Castillo 8, Taganas 8, Guillermo 6, Hermida 2, Ventosa 1, Espinosa 1, Ferrer 0, Principe 0, Cruz 0.

LETRAN 72—Tagarda 17, Rosopa 16, Martin 15, Musni 12, Valencia 4, De Mesa 4, Ruiz 3, Dizon 1, Latonio 0, Garland 0.

Quarters: 23-29, 51-43, 65-64, 88-72.

Peping wins full support of 22 NSAs

By Marc Anthony Reyes

JOSE "Peping" Cojuangco, who turned 70 on Sunday, received a belated birthday gift yesterday from 22 of 36 national sports associations that pledged support in his bid for the presidency of the Philippine Olympic Committee.

The list, sources said, is expected to swell as more NSA heads have pledged to sign the letter declaring their support for the former Tarlac congressman.

The signatories will also be asking POC president Celso Dayrit to beg off from running in the November POC election, the same sources said.

"The idea is to have a unified POC by the time the country hosts the Southeast Asian Games Federation meeting here on Oct. 11," said the INQUIRER sources. "We believe it would be the best possible arrangement for Dayrit to support Cojuangco and effect a smooth transition of power."

The NSA presidents and representatives in taekwondo, judo, basketball, sepak takraw, karatedo, softball, pencak silat, bowling, cycling, badminton, weightlifting, table tennis, lawn tennis, wushu, golf, volleyball, bodybuilding, canoeing, softball, wrestling, track and field, and billiards signed the manifesto.

Collectively, the NSAs expressed their desire to have an acclamation instead of an election which, they feel, "would only create winners and losers."

Sources added that the letter will be presented to Dayrit next week as a result of a series of meetings among the NSAs.

TEACHER-FOOTBALLERS: The RP women's team boasts of teachers Jo Loren, Merlie Acibar, Marigen Ariel, Brenda Gayagoy, Letecia Bautista, Karen Cacho and Malou Rubio.

RP women put best foot forward in Viet soccer tilt

A CONFIDENT Philippine women's football team leaves for Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, tomorrow with an eye on giving the country its best soccer finish in the Asean Football Federation (AFF) Women's Championship that starts next week.

A blend of veterans and footballers in their prime, the Filipinas under coach Marlon Maro have more depth and experience. The US-based pair of Karem Esteva and Friday Camaclang will also give the squad a big boost.

The RP women are bracketed in Group B and will debut against Indonesia at 3 p.m. on Sept. 30 at Thanh Long Stadium. Singapore is next on Oct. 2, before the Filipinas tackle host Vietnam on Oct. 4.

In the 2003 Southeast Asian Games also held in Ho Chi Minh, the RP women drew with the Indons, 1-1, but bowed to the Vietnamese, 3-0. The Singaporeans beat the Filipinas, 2-1, in a friendly match last year.

However, Philippine Football Association president Johnny Romualdez believes the RP women can get the two wins needed to reach the quarterfinals.

Team manager Mari Martinez, a "Mr. Football" awardee in the '70s, also thinks the entry of Esteva and Camaclang will give coach Maro more options on the field.

Leading the team is 30-year-old skipper Jo Loren.

Sweeper Esteva and midfielder Camaclang, who once received a Player of the Match award in the Asian Games, are expected to provide most of the offense.

The touted tandem will get support from Malou Rubio, the 2004 PFF-adidas Female Footballer of the Year, and top UAAP footballer Marielle Benitez, 22.

The rest of the team are Clarisse Lazaro, Merlie Acibar, Karen Cacho, Levis Camarillo, Edna Agravante, Merlo Albano, Marigen Ariel, Letecia Bautista, Rachelle de los Reyes, Brenda Gayagoy, Issa Marquéz, Rhea Penales and Chrissy Tirazona.

Key Archer faces ban in Game 2

DE LA SALLE'S sophomore guard, Ryan Araña, may not be around when the Archers seek the championship against the Far Eastern Tamaraws in Game 2 of the UAAP senior basketball Finals on Sunday.

Araña, who topscored with 16 points in La Salle's 58-51 Game 1 win last Thursday, was slapped an unsportsmanlike foul for hitting FEU's Dennis Miranda.

The UAAP technical committee head will deliberate today if Araña's third offense this season merits a suspension that he will serve on Sunday.

Araña had already been slapped with a one-game suspension in the eliminations after incurring two unsportsmanlike fouls. *Jasmine W. Payo*

WINNERS' GALLERY

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DANCING CAGERS: Members of three-time champion Green Team whoop it up after topping the DIA-Dance Instructor Basketball Tournament recently. The team sponsored by Jollibee, Quintin Paredes and Sta. Lucia Realty is made up of Harold de Leon, Albert Estinopo, Antonio Presas, Albert Soriano, Walter Calderon, Elmer Celocia, John Cruz, James Cruz, Jose Mari Jarana, Reogelio Ladines, Joemari Magnabe, Patrick Manayag, Merlchor Opilan, Albert Leyson, Christopher Rizal and Joseph Rizal.

PHARMA KEGLERS: Maryrose Inguillo (center) holds the trophy, symbol of Wyeth Philippines' supremacy in the recent 10th Century Park Hotel Inter-Pharmaceuticals Bowling Tournament at the Astrobowl Magallanes. Team members (starting from fourth from left) Jhun San Juan, Inguillo, Mario Ayon and Jess Sison pose with CPH project coordinator Angie Reyes (left), director for marketing Angel Suntay, GM Paul Gill, assistant sales manager Andy Hipolito and director for sales Jessie Rivera (right). Bayer Phils. and Bristol Myers wound up second and third, respectively, in the tournament.

BADMINTON CHAMPS: The winners and runners-up of the first badminton tournament of the Atin Yan Sports Club in Barangay BHP, Pandacan, join its officers after the competition held recently at the club's courts. From left, Tet Mendoza, president Mirlo Olan, vice chair Bibot Holgado, Janelle Reyes, Michi Regalado, Richard Inan, Perlo de Guzman, Ronald Inan and chair Marlon Olan. The tournament was held in cooperation with barangay chair Norby Evangelio and the council.

Indonesia hosts Asian F3 4th leg

AFTER a relatively unimpressive run in Beijing, Australian Christian Jones tries to regain his winning ways when the Asian Formula 3 series holds its fourth leg on Oct. 3 at the Sentul International Circuit in Bogor, Indonesia.

Jones finished second and 10th in two races making up the third leg of the series in Beijing, way below his standards considering he easily ruled the first two races in Batangas and Subic.

Despite his misadventure in Beijing, Jones, lead driver of the Christian Jones Motorsport team, still leads the overall race for the top driver award with 96 points, although his closest pursuer, John O'Hara of Shell Kinetic F3, had closed the gap.

O'Hara ruled the first race in Beijing to pick up 20 points and also topped the second race, only to be penalized later for colliding with Jones at the start of the race. O'Hara eventually dropped to sixth in the second race but the six points he gained gave him a total of 86 going into the Indonesian leg of the series sponsored by Denso, Yokohama and Motolite.

Defending champion Mark Goddard of Castrol Team Goddard-Minardi Team Asia bounced back into contention after finishing third and first in the two Beijing races, leaving him with a third-running 56 points.

Asian Formula 3 chairman Ed Peña expects another exciting action especially because the fourth leg of the series will be held at the world-class Sentul International Circuit, which was designed for Formula 1 racing.

"The track is expected to bring out the best among the drivers, so we can really expect topnotch action," said Peña.

UM, coach seek more cage glory

GAMES TODAY (*Astrodome*)
10 a.m.—St. Clare vs PLP (for 3rd)
12 nn—UM vs CEU (Game 2)

FOR the past three years, University of Manila has turned the Naascu men's basketball tournament into its own private playground. This year, it has Centro Escolar University to toy around with.

The Hawks are expected to roll on to their fourth straight title and their 73rd straight win in Game 2 of their best-of-three title series with the Scorpions at high noon today at the Cuneta Astrodome.

UM coach Loreto Tolentino is also hoping to set a record of two collegiate championships in a year after guiding the PCU Dolphins to their first ever NCAA title Wednesday.

The 56-year-old long-time UM mentor steered the Hawks to a 75-63 Game 1 victory last Thursday.

"I don't want to stop this run, this is rare for a team and a coach," said Tolentino, referring both to his coaching career and UM's unbeaten stint in the National Athletic Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities since it began in 2001.

La Salle-Lipa Stallion Cup tees off Oct. 1 at Malarayat

LIPA City's finest parbusters, including defending champion Pitong Quiocho, lead hundreds of alumni and guests teeing off for De La Salle-Lipa's 3rd Stallion Cup Golf Tournament slated Oct. 1 at the Club Malarayat.

Batch 1979, the school's silver jubilarians, will also put its team title on the line for the second time in the annual tournament co-presented by Smart Phils. Inc. and held to raise funds for the Bro. Jaime Hilario Learning Community, the free night school of De La Salle-Lipa.

Competitions will be held in classes A, B, C and ladies in the event also backed by Spider Security Services and Buenavista Nature Homes and Country Club.

For inquiries, call Sammy Baltazar at 0917-8912749, Elsie Mercado-Sosa 0917-8983030, Pancho Villa 0916-7476746, Levi Agoncillo 0917-5264836, Rey Luna 0920-9102891 or Boycee Arguelles 0917-5040901.

YOUNG STAR ON ICE
Ice skater Angelica P. Elmido shows off the 3 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze medals she bagged during the recent 11-nation Skate Asia 2004 international ice skating meet held at the Taiwan Ice Sports Arena in Taipei. The sixth grader at the Saint Ruiz Montessori School in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, also captured 3 golds and a pair of silvers in last year's Skate Singapore. Angel, who trains under the wings of SM Southmall coach William A. Hilario, enjoys the support of Pagcor chair and CEO Efraim C. Genuino.

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Assistant Editor **Rito P. Asilo**

LIWANAG CANDLE
Ang Pambansang Kandila
40 *Taon* nang naghihatid LIWANAG sa sambayanang Pilipino
A chorus of "blow out the candles" signals the highlight of any birthday celebration. And what better way to mark our years and birthday wishes than with Liwanag candles that have been part of our lives as Filipinos for a long time.

Karel Marquez does mom Pinky proud

By Rito P. Asilo

WE caught Karel Marquez' stint with the Onda Latino band at Dish at the ABS-CBN compound last Saturday to see for ourself what makes the pretty, young daughter of singer-actress Pinky Marquez tick. We were pleasantly surprised to see the place packed to capacity—mostly with teeners and twentysomethings!

But, our fascination with TV's current toast is not merely a matter of curiosity. As a young girl, Karel would tag along with Pinky to rehearsals and performances of Ryan Cayabyab's "Magnificat"—a number of times, she even sang the role of the angel who announced to snoozing shepherds the birth of baby Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem!

Growing passion

Back then, Karel was shy and endearingly giggly. But, during occasional chats, she'd reveal to us her growing passion for performing—a chip off the not-so-old block, right, Pinky?

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER. Karel, left, sings with her mother.

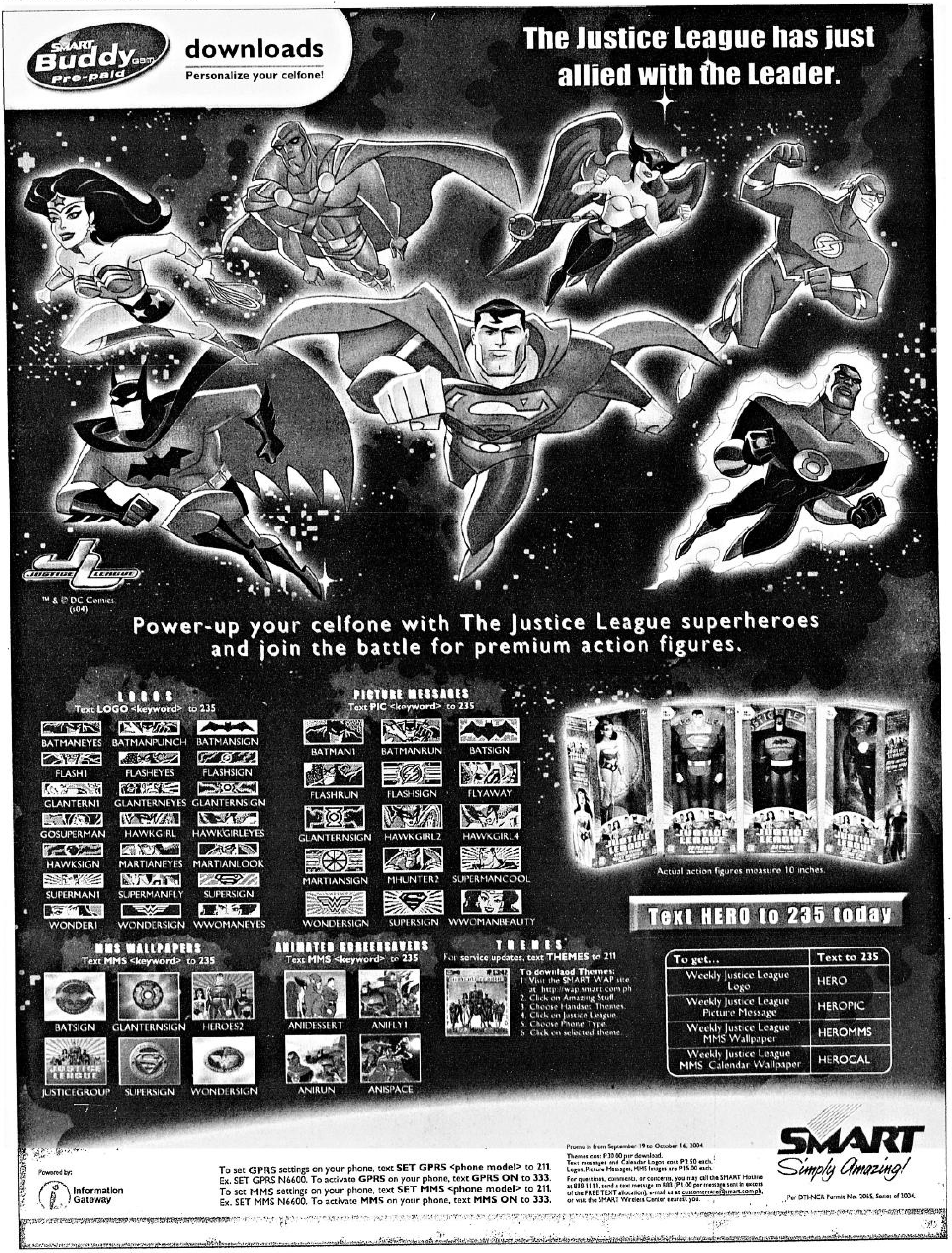
Karel's 11-song set at Dish catered mostly to the teenage and yuppie crowd. Of course, she has to tweak her Top 40, female angst-ridden repertoire if she wants to reach out to the older performance venue habitués.

Aplomb and conviction

But, the classy 17-year-old up-and-comer dished out her songs with aplomb and conviction, never mind that many of her chosen numbers spoke of lost love, longing and getting even!

What sets Karel apart from other singers her age is her easy rapport with the audience and her unpretentious demeanor onstage. She acts and dresses her age (just jeans and shirt, and light make-up—and thank God no frumpy gowns!). And we could still see flashes of her old, meek self in between numbers when she would steal glances at our table to seek some sign of support—and approval?—from mom Pinky.

KAREL/ A2-3



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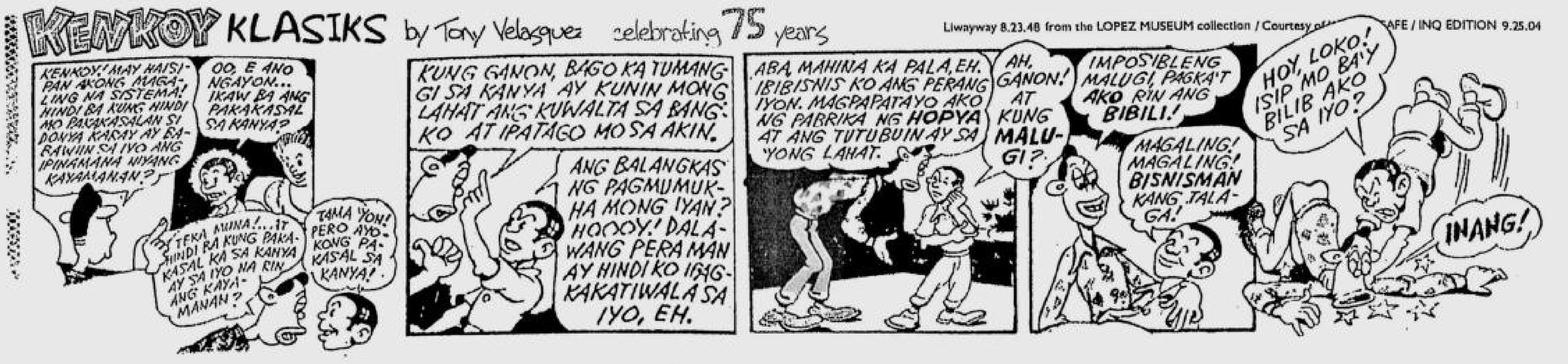
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TEKA MUNA!...AT HINDI BA KUNG PAKAKASAL KA SA KANYA AY SA IYO NA RIN ANG KAYAMANAN?
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KUNG GANON, BAGO KA TUMANGGI SA KANYA AY KUNIN MONG LAHAT ANG KUWALTA SA BANGKO AT IPATAGO MO SA AKIN.
ANG BALANGKAS NG PAGMUMUKHA MONG IYAN? HOOOY! DALAWANG PERA MAN AY HINDI KO IPAGKAKATIWALA SA IYO, EH.
ABA, MAHINA KA PALA, EH. IBIBISNIS KO ANG PERANG IYON. MAGPAPATAYO AKO NG PABRIKA NG HOPYA AT ANG TUTUBUIN AY SA 'YONG LAHAT.
AH, GANON! AT KUNG MALUGI?
IMPOSIBLENG MALUGI, PAGKA'T AKO RIN ANG BIBILI!
MAGALING! MAGALING! BISNISMAN KANG TALAGA!
HOY, LOKO! ISIP MO BA'Y BILIB AKO SA IYO?
INANG!

Johnny Depp, Zhang Ziyi in new starrers

By Nestor U. Torre

DEPP, ZHANG AND QUEEN LATIFAH. Topbill "Secret Window," "House of Flying Daggers," and "Taxi," respectively.

ZHANG Ziyi first made international audiences sit up and take notice of her unusual combination of beauty, talent and martial arts prowess in the big hit, "Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon." Since it was launched by that blockbuster movie, her career hasn't stopped tracing its upward trajectory.

Recently, "Hero" topped the US box office, and Zhang's latest starrer, "House of Flying Daggers," is expected to similarly click with moviegoers around the world.

Revolutionary faction

Set near the end of the Tang Dyanasty, "Daggers" revolves around police deputies Jin (Takeshi Kaneshiro) and Leo (Andy Lau), who tangle with Mei (Ziyi), a blind dancer suspected of having ties to a revolutionary faction known as the House of Flying Tigers.

Enraptured by her, the deputies concoct a plan to save her from capture, and Jin leads her on what becomes a perilous journey into the unknown.

For his part, Johnny Depp has also come from a huge hit, "Pirates of the Carribean," which has made him an even bigger star than he used to be.

He trusts that his heightened cachet at the box office will help his new starrer, "Secret Window," gain the interest of viewers.

In contrast to the brash, panoramic production that was "Pirates," Depp's new movie, "Secret Window," is an intense psychological thriller.

Depp plays Mort Riley, a reclusive writer living in a mountain cabin, who's trying to get over a painful divorce. In addition, he has to contend with a psycho hillbilly who believes that Rainey plagiarized his story.

The actor portrays Mort as a disheveled hard-luck case. But he has to finally get his act together when the hillbilly threatens his very life.

Acting debut

In "First Daughter," R&B singer Amerie Rogers makes her acting debut opposite Katie Holmes, who plays the US president's offspring, no less. To date, Holmes' character has lived her life under strict supervision, but when she goes to college, she yearns to finally be free.

In the romantic comedy, Amerie plays Mia, the First Daughter's spunky, know-it-all roommate. Mia loves going to parties and flirting with boys, and wants to take her VIP roomie along for the ride of her life!

Another singer, Queen Latifah, plays Belle in the new comedy caper, "Taxi." Belle is a unique character because she's a female taxi driver who makes her souped-up cab virtually fly through the streets of New York City.

But driving a taxi is only a pit stop for Belle, because her ultimate dream is—to become a car-racing champion!

Perfect vehicle

Latifah found that "Taxi" offered the perfect vehicle for her because it combined action and comedy. She also liked the fact that her character was a strong and sexy woman—not unlike herself!

The film required Latifah to do some stunts, and she liked that even more. She explains: "I have the 'X-gene' in me, the one that makes you want to jump out of planes, ride motorcycles and do karate. I was really looking forward to doing that kind of movie, and I'm so glad that 'Taxi' finally came along!"

Two Sigma Delta beauties of the '70s recalled

By Behn Cervantes

UP's SIGMA Delta Phi sorority is known for its beautiful coeds, cultural accomplishments and artistic projects. Purita Kalaw Ledesma, Cota Deles Yabut, Cheloy Dans, Korito Kalaw, Celia Diaz Laurel, Joy Virata and Ofie Tequi quickly come to mind when the sorority's artists are remembered.

From the '50s till the late '70s, it also produced annual musicals that starred the likes of Maureen Tiongco, Minda Feliciano and Dee Marquez.

Innovative shows

In 1969, I was again asked to direct the sorority's musical production. I directed "Bye Bye Birdie" the year before and had appeared in a number of their innovative shows as a student.

Grand Archon Mila Hernandez chose to stage the boisterous Broadway hit "Guys and Dolls." It was a perfect choice, because the sorority had many pretty girls who could invite their brother fraternity members at Upsilon Sigma Phi to help them out with the male roles.

Guest artists

To spice up the cast I included a few guest artists like NUT and Vic Sumulong, now a member of Congress. As usual, the sorority fielded their newest recruits who could sing, dance and portray character roles in the fun musical.

Cast as one of the nightclub dancers was a graceful and pretty *morena* from Davao named Nelia Sancho. However, whenever I needed a scene stealer to cross the stage, I asked oh-so-tall and attractive Ruby Umali to be the gal. She literally stuck out because of her height, *and* she had stage presence, too.

SANCHO. Toast of the fashion world.

NUT volunteered to help with the publicity so we asked Paulyn Paredes Sicam to interview Nelia for a feature article in the Manila Chronicle Sunday Magazine. The photographer was so taken by Nelia's good looks that she landed on the cover of the magazine.

That summer, my sister Lingling then working for the Binibining Pilipinas, enticed me to enter someone for that year's beauty tilt, as I had already entered a previous winner, Vida Doria.

I quickly recommended Nelia, who was then on vacation in her native Davao. She hesitantly agreed to come back to Manila. She ended up as first runner-up to Gloria Diaz. Soon, she was modeling for Pitoy Moreno in international fashion shows, before she was chosen to represent the country in the Queen of the Pacific contest in Australia.

Because Nelia duplicated model Baby Santiago's victory, she soon became a droppable name, along with the likes of Maita Gomez, in beauty-conscious Philippines.

First rally

In the meantime, the First Quarter Storm was going full-steam, so when Nelia resumed her studies at UP Mass Communications, I asked members of the Samahan ng Mga Progresibong Propagandista (SSP) to recruit her as a member. I took her to her first rally.

She then joined the relief group in flooded Pampanga. I included her along with Rita Gomez, Vic Silayan, Fred Montilla, Boy Camara, Pilar Pilapil, Bibot Amador, Baby Barredo and Boy Asiniero in the cast of "Isang Gabi ng Awitin at Tulang Makabayan," an ultra-Leftist show I directed for Gintong Silahis two weeks before the declaration of Martial Law.

When Martial Law was declared, Nelia, with Sigma Deltan sis Tita Lubi, joined the underground. Maita Gomez and Nelia were secretly admired as beauty queens turned rebels. When she was arrested in 1974, Nelia was transferred to another camp just a few hours before I was brought

TWO/ A2-3

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM SEPT 25 - OCT 1

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Basil and Rico J in unique joint concert

By Nestor U. Torre

WE'RE looking forward to the joint concert of Rico J. Puno and Basil Valdez on Oct. 8 at Araneta Coliseum. Their first-ever show together is a should-see event because the two veteran singing stars are so different from each other in style and temperament, while enjoying parallel careers for three decades now.

Basil first performed in singing groups and bands before making it as a solo singer. Unlike other, more gung-ho performers, he's made his distinct musical mark on the local entertainment scene with his cool, laid-back approach.

Signature singer

Aside from his expressive voice and genteel performing style, Basil's unique musical "selling propositions" include his having been the "signature" singer of hit pop composers like Willy Cruz and George Canseco.

Indeed, Basil's renderings of their songs have been so quietly potent that his appeal has gone from one generation to the next, and continues to endure.

He's not as busy as he should be, but whenever he puts up a concert, his loyal followers show up in droves, eager to get their fix of Basil bounty.

Yes, we sometimes wish that he would do more new songs and stretch his musical horizons just a bit. But, if that isn't forthcoming, we're still happy enough just to get Basil the way he is, or has been for many years now. There's something to be said for tradition and consistency of standards, after all.

Good lead-in

Speaking of "the way we were," that's a good lead-in to our re-appreciation of Rico J. Puno, because his Taglish updating of the American song with that phrase for its title launched his own mainstream music career, which has remained on overdrive ever since.

Sure, he's had his low moments, but the fact that he's still flying high now is a tribute, not just to Rico J's talent, but also to his ability to periodically reinvent himself.

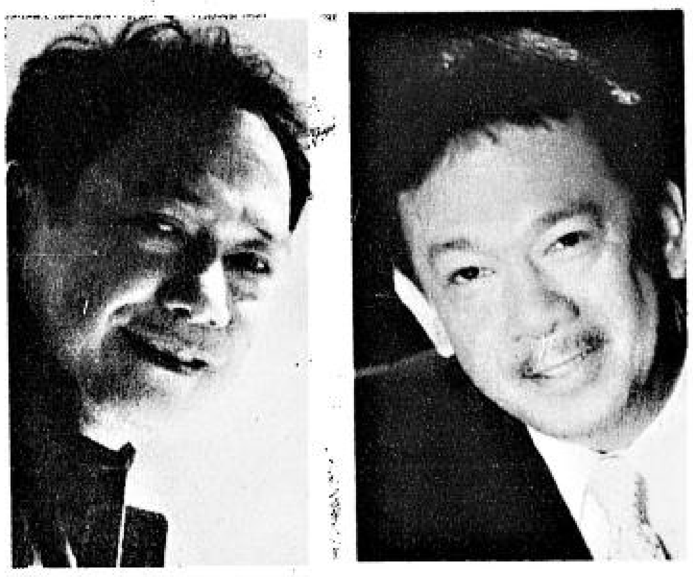
These days, Rico is in demand as a total performer *and* "for adults" entertainer—meaning, his naughty jokes have become as important a part of his club performances as his powerful musical stylings.

In fact, we can say that Rico is as brash as Basil is genteel, so it'll be a treat to see the two star singers with radically contrasting styles performing together in "The Way We Were" on Oct. 8.

Provocation

Will they sing separately, or will they dare to occasionally encroach into each other's signature turf? It won't take much provocation for Rico to spoof Basil's laid-back singing style, but will Basil surprise us by cracking a couple of "naughty" jokes himself? Not likely, but we can impishly dream, can't we?

In any case, surprises or not, Basil and Rico's Araneta Coliseum concert is a tribute to two veteran performers who, unlike many of their contemporaries, have remained popular by knowing what they do best, and sticking to it all these years.



VALDEZ AND PUNO. Parallel careers.

Karel Marquez . . .

From page A2-1

When she performs Evanescence's "Bring Me to Life" and "My Immortal," she goes straight for the musical jugular, from the transitional wails and groans, down to grungy whispers in the vocally challenging numbers.

Karel's choice of songs was not surprising. The young crowd readily lapped up her covers of Vanessa Carlton's "A Thousand Miles," Jewel's "Standing Still," Bachelor Girl's "Buses and Trains," Plumb's "Stranded" and, as she repeatedly mentioned, her favorite singer Michelle Branch's "Everywhere" and "Game of Love."

Even Alanis Morrisette's angry-girl anthem, "Ironic," got a less-than-angry vocal reworking from her.

We have to say, though, that her voice works best when crooning numbers that fit her classy appeal and youth, as proven by her sweet, effective rendering of Mandy Moore's cover of "Moon Shadow."

In time, when Pinky Marquez's stunning daughter finally finds her own voice and performing style, we will be there to applaud her!

Two Sigma Delta . . .

From page A2-2

in myself. I recall that even the military guard seemed to be impressed by her conviction.

When she was detained again in 1977, I soon joined her, Satur Ocampo, Ed de la Torre, Pepe Luneta and other radicals at Camp Diwa in Bicutan.

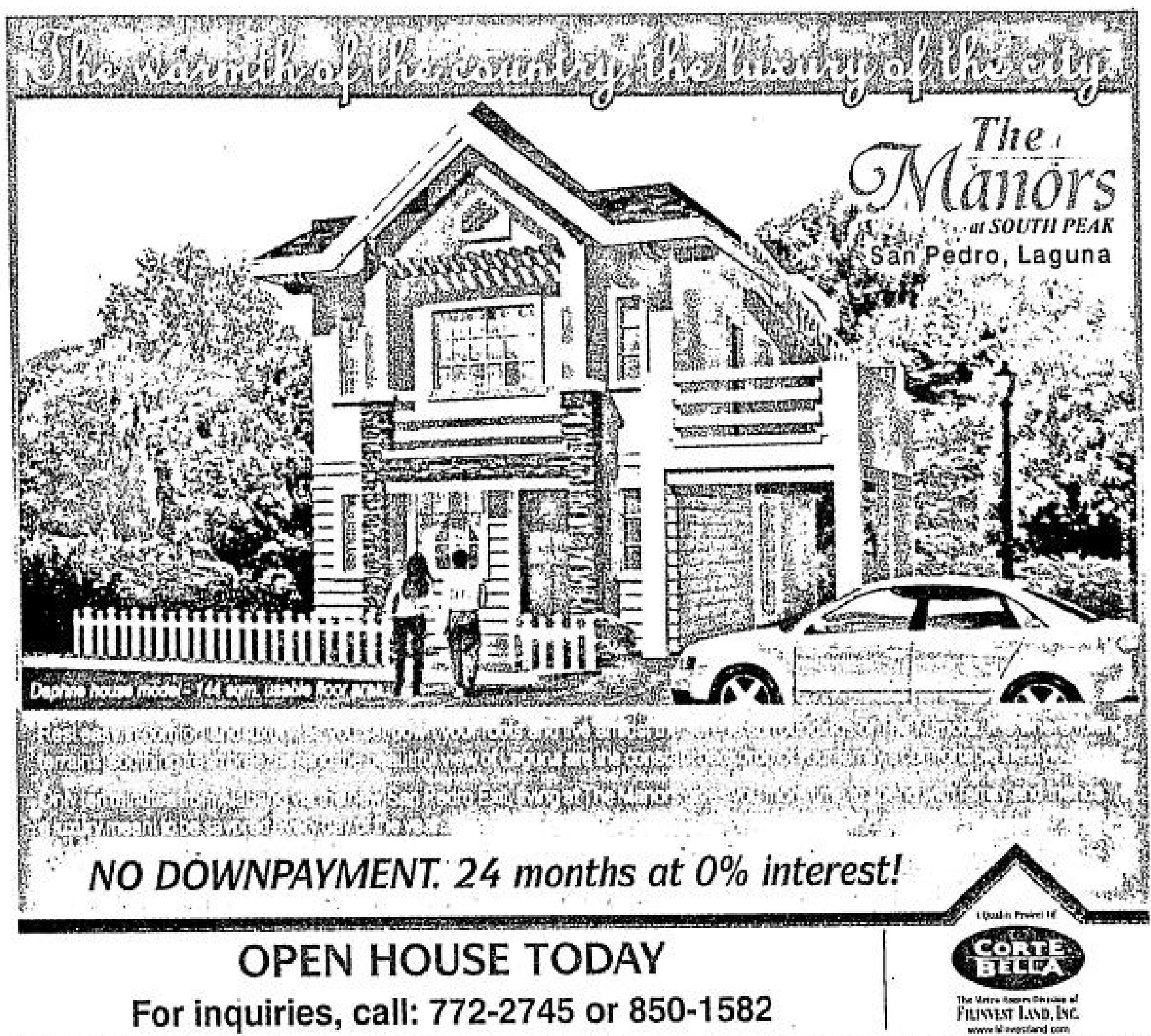
Apartment

When she was finally released after many years of detention and had no place to stay, I vacated my apartment for her use and also managed to get her a Bliss unit at Diliman. There were quite a few who wondered why Nelia had chosen her arduous path.

For a girl who could have opted for a life of comfort, she chose to live up to her principles and, as we activists said during the FQS, "Serve the people!"

Throughout these many years and trials, Nelia has remained simple, focused, serene and constant. Nelia Sancho, the Sigma Deltan-turned beauty queen-turned rebel, is tempered, stalwart and simply admirable.

(To be concluded)



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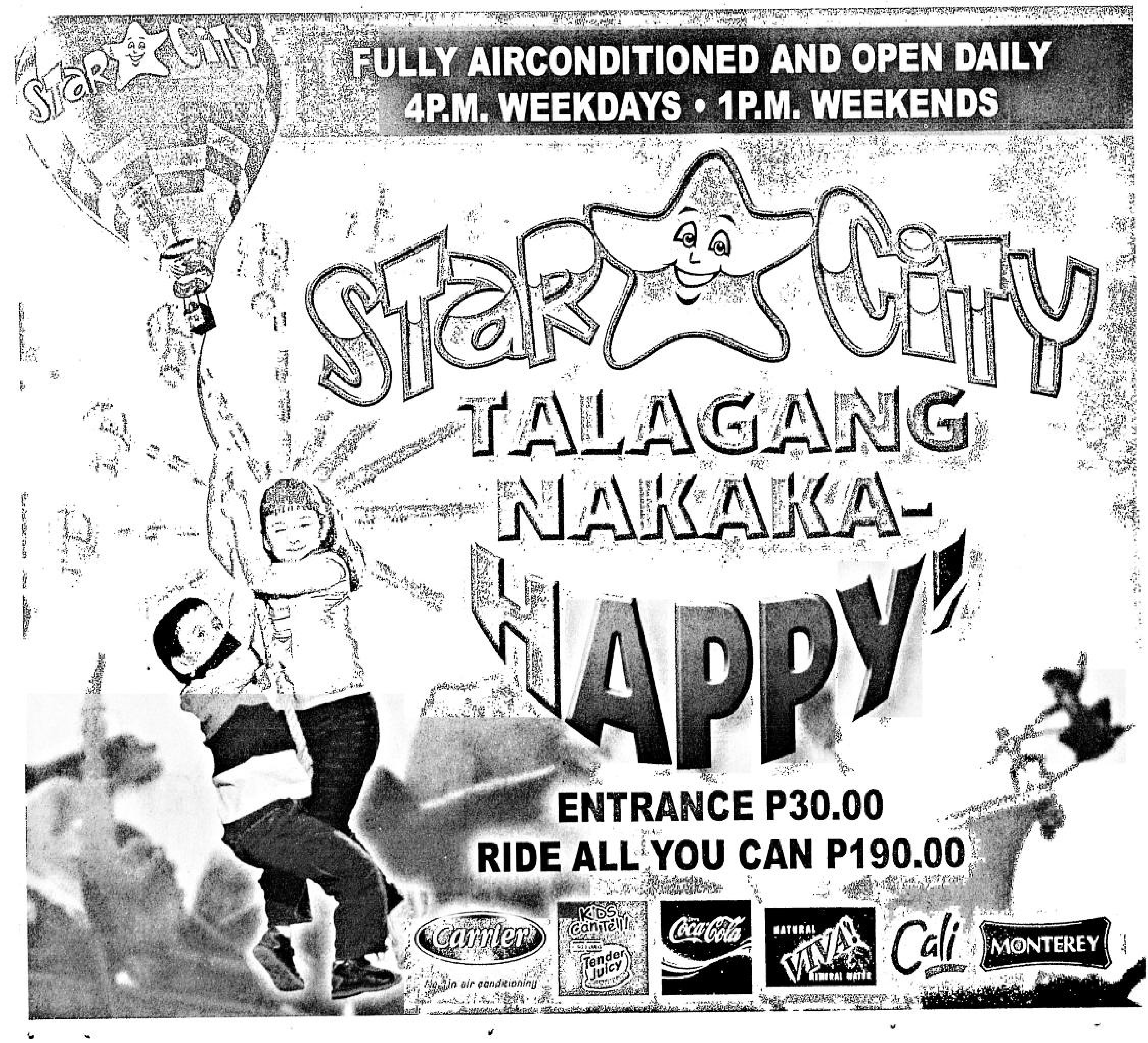

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1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	ANACONDAS
3	BOURNE SUPREMACY
4	FENG SHUI
5	13 GOING ON 30
6	AUSTRALIAN FILM FESTIVAL
7	SECRETARY
8	HEAVEN'S POND
9	TERMINAL
10	EXORCIST
11	NOTEBOOK
12	DODGEBALL

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

1	SECRETARY
2	TOOLBOX MURDERS
3	THE NOTEBOOK
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5	ANACONDAS
6	FENG SHUI
7	BOURNE SUPREMACY
8	SAVED
9	PRINCESS DIARIES 2
10	MINDHUNTERS
11	13 GOING ON 30
12	THE TERMINAL

SM CITY MANILA 5239240

1	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
2	BOURNE SUPREMACY
3	THE NOTEBOOK
4	FENG SHUI
5	13 GOING ON 30
6	BOURNE SUPREMACY
7	HEAVEN'S POND
8	ANACONDAS
9	FENG SHUI
10	DODGEBALL
11	SAVED
12	TERMINAL

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	13 GOING ON 30
3	FENG SHUI
4	THE TERMINAL
5	SAVED
6	HEAVEN'S POND
7	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
8	BOURNE SUPREMACY

SM CITY STA. MESA 7149522 • 7161418

1	PETA
2	SAVED
3	FENG SHUI
4	THE TERMINAL
5	BOURNE SUPREMACY
6	HEAVEN'S POND
7	13 GOING ON 30
8	BOURNE SUPREMACY
9	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
10	ANACONDAS

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN 2514302

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	SECRETARY
3	FENG SHUI
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

North

SM CITY MARILAO (044) 933 2013 to 17

1	13 GOING ON 30
2	THE TERMINAL
3	BOURNE SUPREMACY
4	FENG SHUI

SM CITY PAMPANGA 7128015

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
3	ANACONDAS
4	TERMINAL
5	MINDHUNTERS
6	FENG SHUI

SM CITY BAGUIO (074) 4464505

1	DODGEBALL
2	FENG SHUI
3	CINE EUROPA
4	BOURNE SUPREMACY

South

SM CITY LAS PIÑAS 8066888

1	SAVED
2	13 GOING ON 30
3	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4	BOURNE SUPREMACY
5	THE TERMINAL
6	MINDHUNTERS
7	FENG SHUI
8	BOURNE SUPREMACY
9	ANACONDAS
10	HEAVEN'S POND

SM CITY BICUTAN 7763055

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	FENG SHUI
3	HEAVEN'S POND
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

SM SUPER CENTER SUCAT 8294975

1	13 GOING ON 30
2	BOURNE SUPREMACY
3	FENG SHUI
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

SM CITY BACOOR (046)4173868

1	MINDHUNTERS
2	NOTEBOOK
3	BOURNE SUPREMACY
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5	ANACONDAS
6	FENG SHUI
7	13 GOING ON 30
8	THE TERMINAL

SM CITY DASMA (046) 4323201-04

1	13 GOING ON 30
2	FENG SHUI
3	MINDHUNTERS
4	BOURNE SUPREMACY

SM CITY LUCENA (042) 7108977-80

1	ANACONDAS
2	DODGEBALL
3	LAWS OF ATTRACTION
4	FENG SHUI

Visayas & Mindanao

SM CITY CEBU (032) 2313876

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	BOURNE SUPREMACY
3	PRINCESS DIARIES 2
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5	SPARTAN
6	TOOLBOX MURDERS
7	FENG SHUI
8	THE NOTEBOOK

SM CITY ILOILO (033) 3209422

1	ANACONDAS
2	RESERVED
3	THE TERMINAL
4	THE NOTEBOOK
5	LAWS OF ATTRACTION
6	FENG SHUI
7	RESERVED
8	DODGEBALL

SM CITY DAVAO (082) 2976956

1	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	GODSEND
3	FENG SHUI
4	THE NOTEBOOK
5	DODGEBALL
6	BOURNE SUPREMACY

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO (08) 8592884

1	TERMINAL
2	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
3	FENG SHUI
4	ANACONDAS

THE PODIUM CINEMA

1
13 GOING ON 30
11:25 FS/11:55 MF/
2:05 LMF/03:40 END

2
BOURNE SUPREMACY
10:50 FS/11:20 MF/
1:40/4:00/6:20/
8:40/10:30 LFS/
11:00 LMF/12:50 END

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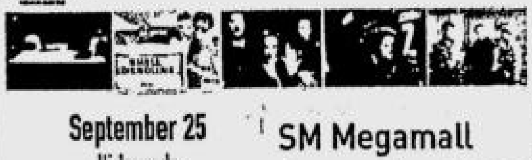

September 25
Hidegrade
3:00 pm
The Tracker
5:30 pm
Walking on Water
8:00 pm

SM Megamall
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SM Cebu
September 25-26

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jennifer garner
13 going on 30

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MOVIE GUIDE
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PREMIERE THEATRE
(DOLBY) THE TERMINAL R-13

1 (DOLBY)	BOURNE SUPREMACY PG-13
2 (DOLBY)	BOURNE SUPREMACY PG-13
3 (DOLBY)	FENG SHUI GP
4 (DOLBY)	EXORCIST R-13

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1. (DOLBY)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2.	FENG SHUI
3.	HEAVEN'S POND
4.	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5.	TAKAW TINGIN

Gotesco Grand Central (Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	RESERVE
2	ANACONDAS
3	KAPAG ANG PALAY NAGING BIGAS MAY BUMAYO
4 (SDDS)	TAKAW TINGIN
5	FENG SHUI
6 (DOLBY)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
7 (DTS)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
8	RESERVE
9	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA (Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274

1	FENG SHUI
2	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
3	TAKAW TINGIN

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph (Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	TAKAW TINGIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5	FENG SHUI

METROPOLIS star www.clickthecity.com.ph (Alabang) tel 850.4285

1	SECRETARY
2	TAKAW TINGIN
3	ANACONDAS
4	FENG SHUI
5 (DOLBY)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
6	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph (Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007

1 (DOLBY)	HOT SPOT
2	BIGLANG LIKO

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA (Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (SDDS)	FENG SHUI
2 (SDDS)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
3 (DTS)	THE TERMINAL
4 GOLD (DTS)	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	THE NOTEBOOK
6 GOLD (SDDS)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	FENG SHUI
8 [illegible]	HEAVENS POND
9 [illegible]	SAVED
10 [illegible]	13 GOING ON 30

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3 (Dolby)	FENG SHUI
4 (SDDS)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 (DTS)	EXORCIST
6 (Dolby)	HEAVEN'S POND
7 (Dolby)	SAVED

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	FENG SHUI
2	MIND HUNTERS
3	RESERVED
4	TAKAW TINGIN

Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
2	FENG SHUI
3 (DTS ES)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cine Nepo (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1	THE NOTEBOOK
2	FENG SHUI
3 (DOLBY)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
4 (DTS)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

Cine Nepo (Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1	FENG SHUI
2	ANACONDAS
3 (DOLBY)	HAUNTED SPIRIT
4 (DTS)	ANACONDAS

Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	ANACONDAS
2	FENG SHUI

EASTWOOD CINEMAS (Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY)	FENG SHUI
2 (DOLBY)	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
3 (DOLBY)	THE TERMINAL
4 (DOLBY)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

CINEMA 2000 Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Target Mall (Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 837.0926

1	BIKTIMA
2	FENG SHUI
3 (DTS)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	THUNDERBIRD
2 (DTS)	FENG SHUI
3 (DOLBY)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4	ANACONDAS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	FENG SHUI
2 (DOLBY)	THUNDERBIRD
3 (DTS)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
4	BANGKOK HAUNTED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	STEPFORD WIVES
2	FENG SHUI
3 (DOLBY)	ANACONDAS

Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1	FENG SHUI
2	TOOLBOX MURDER
3 (DOLBY)	ANACONDAS
4 (DTS)	13 GOING ON 30

Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Plaridel) tel (044) 7953320

1	STEPFORD WIVES
2	FENG SHUI
3 (DOLBY)	13 GOING ON 30

Lianas Cinema (Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	THUNDERBIRD
2	TAMPISAW
3	TAKAW TINGIN
4 (DTS)	DEAD PEOPLE

Lianas MovieCity (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
2	BIKTIMA
3 (DTS)	HOT SPOT
4	THUNDERBIRD
5	FENG SHUI

Mega Center Mall (Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	DODGEBALL
2	THE TERMINAL
3 (DTS)	ANACONDAS
4 (DOLBY)	FENG SHUI

Fiesta World Mall (Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	FENG SHUI
2	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
3	TAG-INIT
4	THE TERMINAL

Berma Cinema (Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	TAKAW TINGIN
2	DEAD PEOPLE

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

BROWN. Great performance.

'CARNIVALE'

Intriguing fusion of religion and the occult

By Rito P. Asilo

(Conclusion)

IN our recent interview with Clancy Brown in Singapore, the 45-year-old actor who plays Brother Justin Crowe on HBO's groundbreaking series, "Carnivale" (which follows a traveling carnival and its colorful characters led by a tormented 18-year-old young man, Ben, played by Nick Stahl, who possesses but conceals his healing powers), reveals another reason why he appreciates the journey that the characters in the series take:

Affluent couple

Brown was born and raised in Ohio by an affluent couple in the newspaper business. His father is a former member of the US congress. But, his dad never pressured him to pursue the family business.

Instead, the actor, a towering 6'4", decided to take up a theater course at Northwestern University on a track scholarship.

He beams, "My father is my hero. He encouraged me to go after my dreams. The show may be an allegory, a tale with hidden meanings. But, it's also about people who love doing what they do. That's the beauty of the show—despite its rich religious undertones, it doesn't proselytize or sermonize."

He may have appeared in memorable films like "Shawshank Redemption" and "Dead Man Walking," but he is most sought after for his voice work in animated features like "Superman," "Batman" and "SpongeBob Squarepants" (as Eugene H. Krabs).

Cartoon voices

He tells us: "My character is a great acting job. It stretches me artistically. The only thing I don't do here is my funny cartoon voices."

Clancy reveals that he is currently working on the show's second season. Any major changes? "The first season takes its time to unfold the show's mysteries, it is quite more luxurious in tone, while the second season is more urgent."

Indeed, if you are looking for unique viewing fare on the small tube, "Carnivale" offers more than just technical polish and a slew of quirky characters.

We previewed the first two episodes of the series at the sprawling HBO compound in Singapore with Caroline Wong and Cheryl Ong. And, while some protracted scenes could benefit from tighter editing, we were quite impressed with "Carnivale's" heady mix of religion and the occult—subject matter that the Filipino viewers can immediately relate to.

"Carnivale" will premiere on HBO on Oct. 10 at 8 p.m.

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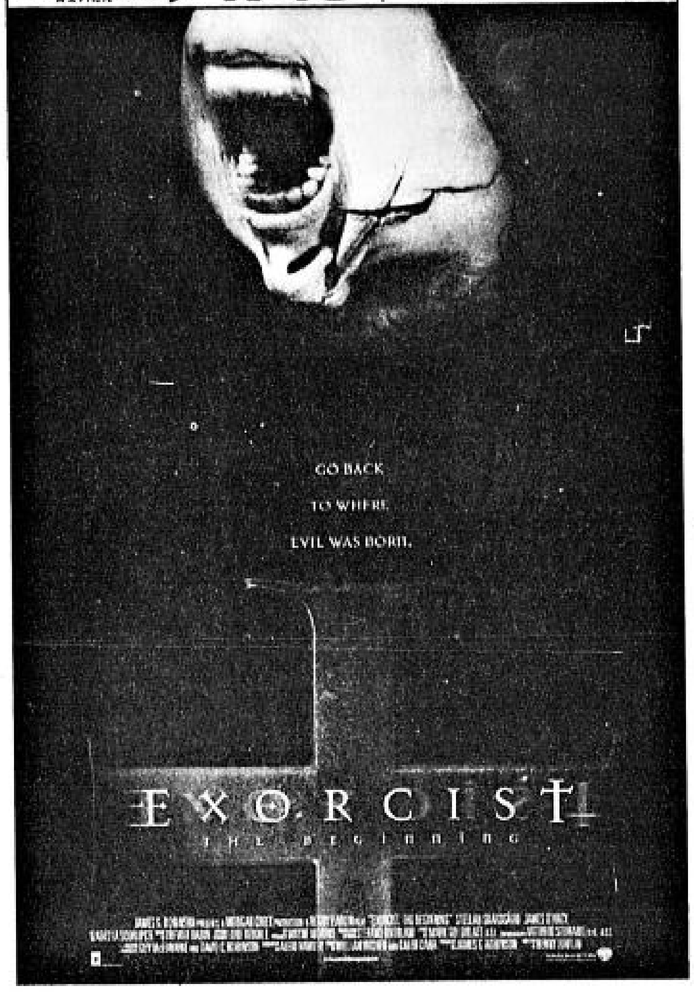

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1	FENG SHUI	10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 10:20 PG-13
2	BOURNE SUPREMACY	12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 10:00 R-13
3	THE TERMINAL	11:05, 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45 GP
4	THE EXORCIST	11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30 PG-13

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THE TERMINAL **GP** 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30	**THE BOURNE SUPREMACY** **PG13** 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00	**EXORCIST - R13** 12:10,2:35,5:00 **THE BOURNE SUPREMACY - PG13** 7:30,9:45
FENG SHUI **PG13** 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	**SAVED** **PG13** 1:50,4:00,6:10,8:20,10:30	**THE BOURNE SUPREMACY** **PG13** 1:30,3:45,6:00,8:15,10:30

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FS: 12:10PM, 2:30PM, 4:50PM, 7:10PM
LMF: 9:30PM (PG-13)

② **BOURNE SUPREMACY**
FS: 10:20AM, 12:40PM, 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 7:40PM
LMF: 10:00PM (PG-13)

③ **FENG SHUI**
FS: 12:20PM, 2:45PM, 5:10PM, 7:35PM
LMF: 10:00PM (PG-13)

④ **EXORCIST**
(R-13)

PREMIERE THEATRE | THE TERMINAL
FS: 12:40PM, 3:20PM, 6:00PM, LMF: 8:40PM
(GP)

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CINEMA 1
BOURNE SUPREMACY
11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15
PG13

CINEMA 2
SAVED
11:00, 1:10, 3:25, 5:40, 7:55, 10:10
PG13

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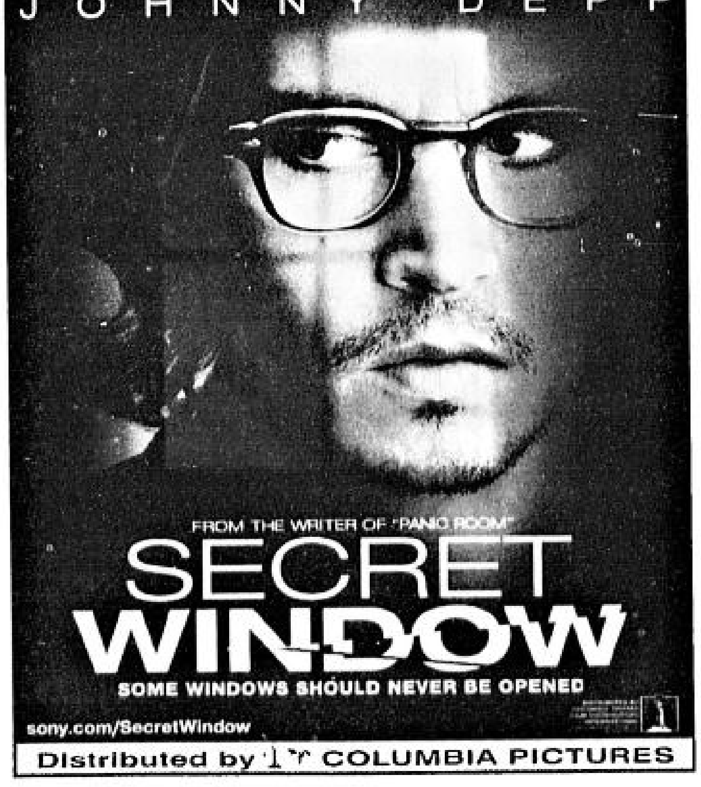
JOHNNY DEPP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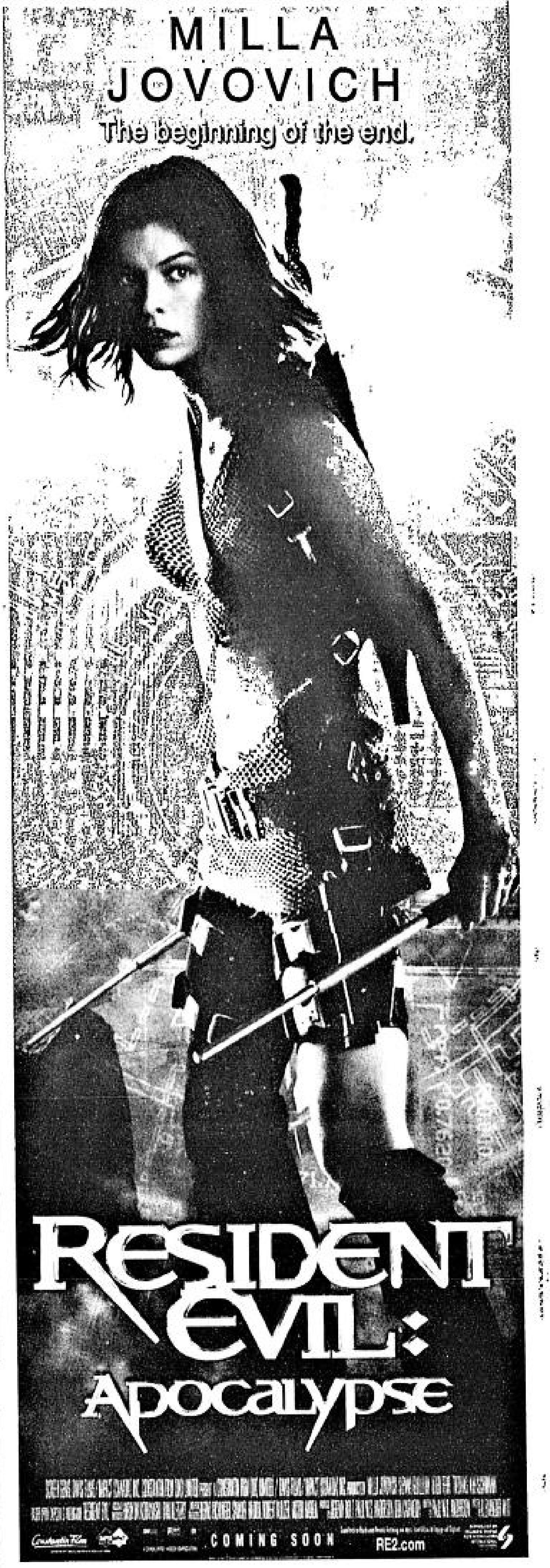
OPENS SEPT. 29

#1 MOVIE IN AMERICA



OPENS SEPTEMBER 29!

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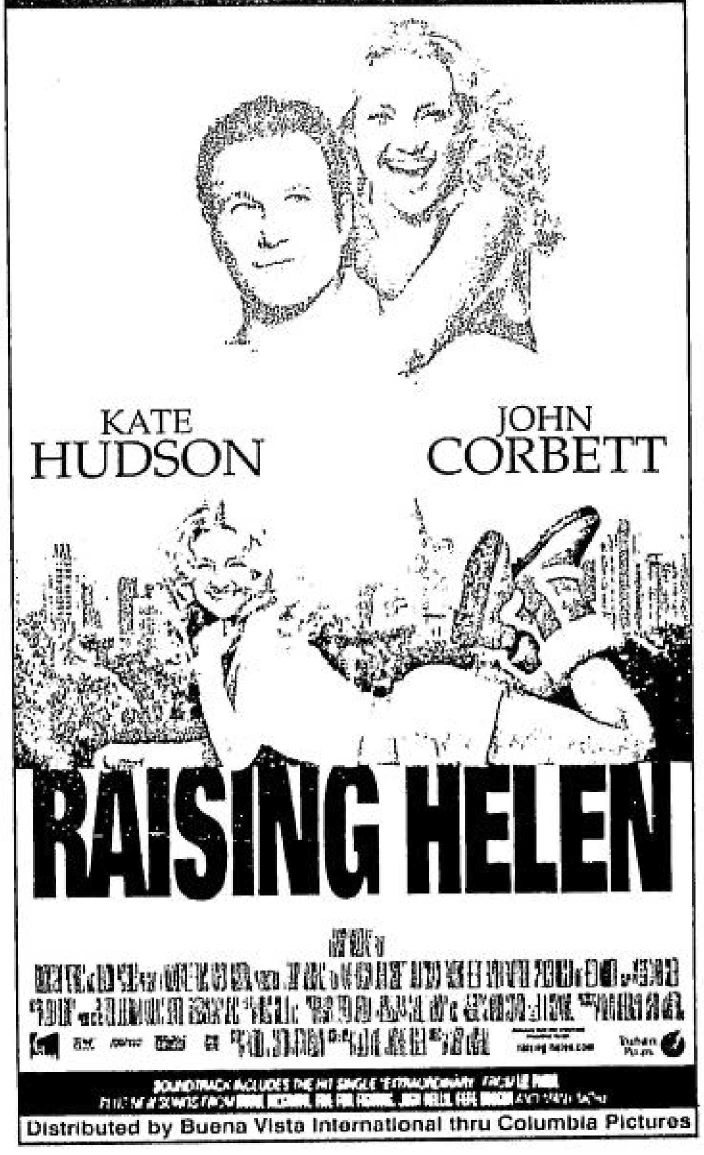
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'RUNAWAY BRIDE' & 'PRETTY WOMAN'



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CINEMA 1 THX
THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
2 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
3 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00
4 13 GOING ON 30 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
5 FENG SHUI 10:20, 12:40, 3.00, 5.20, 7:40, 10:00
6 HEAVEN'S POND 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10.00
7 SAVED 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
8 THE NOTEBOOK 11.20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10.00
9 THE TERMINAL 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
10 SECRETARY 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays
Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas
Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10:35; 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
2 SECRETARY 11:10, 1:30, 3:50, 6:10, 8:20
3 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
4 HEAVEN'S POND 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:00
5 13 GOING ON 30 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
6 FENG SHUI 10:35, 12:50, 3.05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
7 SAVED 10:20, 12:15, 2:10, 4:05, 6:00, 7:55, 9.50

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

1 HEAVEN'S POND 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
2 SAVED 10:05, 12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 6:45, 9:00
3 13 GOING ON 30 10:50, 12:50, 2.50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
4 THE TERMINAL 10:10, 1:05, 4:00, 6:55, 9:10
5 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:35, 10:30
6 TAKAW TINGIN 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6.50, 9:00
7 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 10:35, 1.00, 3:25, 5:50, 8.15, 10:30
8 FENG SHUI 11:20, 1:40, 4.00, 6:20, 8.40, 10:30

NOVALICHES 935-3229 / 31
1 EXORCIST:THE BEGINNING
2 SAVED
3 FENG SHUI
4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 THE TERMINAL
6 13 GOING ON 30
7 MINDHUNTERS
8 ANACONDAS

Citisquare **MALABON** 288-0985/2575
1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 FENG SHUI
3 TAKAW TINGIN
4 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING

CAINTA 240-4661
1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
2 FENG SHUI
3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
4 TAKAW TINGIN

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5870
1 THE TERMINAL
2 13 GOING ON 30
3 TAG-INIT
4 FENG SHUI
5 ANACONDAS

STA. ROSA (049)837-0907
1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
2 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
3 THUNDERBIRDS
4 LAWS OF ATTRACTIONS
5 FENG SHUI

DASMARIÑAS 852-2125 / 416-4332
1 13 GOING ON 30
2 TWISTED
3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
4 MINDHUNTERS
5 FENG SHUI

ANGELES
1 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
2 FENG SHUI
3 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

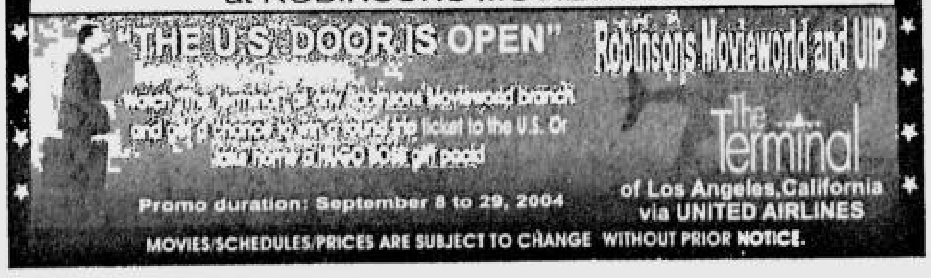
STARMILLS San Fernando, Pampanga 875-1927 / 981-5270
1 THE TOOL BOX MURDERS
2 TAG-INIT
3 FENG SHUI
4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
6 MINDHUNTERS

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858
1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
3 JANDARA
4 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
5 FENG SHUI
6 MINDHUNTERS

BACOLOD 441-0458/59
1 THE TERMINAL
2 FENG SHUI
3 DODGEBALL
4 THE ALAMO
5 ANACONDAS
6 HAMOG

ILOILO 336-8070/78
1 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
2 THE NOTEBOOK
3 FENG SHUI
4 THE TERMINAL
5 DODGEBALL
6 ANACONDAS

at ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD



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ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4		GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
THX 1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	1 FENG SHUI	5 THE NOTEBOOK	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 1 SAVED 2 35, 4 45, 6.55, 9 05, 11 15	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 SAVED	2 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	2 SAVED	6 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 1 50, 4 00, 6 10, 8 20, 10 30	2 THE NOTEBOOK
3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING	3 HEAVEN'S POND	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 EXORCIST 12 50, 3 15, 5.40, 8.05, 10.30	7 THE TERMINAL	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING 2 15, 4 40, 7 05, 9 30	3 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
4 THE TERMINAL	4 FENG SHUI	4 13 GOING ON 30		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 FENG SHUI 2 10, 4 30, 6 50, 9 10, 11 30	4 FENG SHUI
5 FENG SHUI				GUARANTEED SEATS 5 THE TERMINAL 1 30, 4 00, 6 30, 9 00, 11 30	5 THE TERMINAL

GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 SAVED 1:05, 3:15, 5 25, 7 35, 9.45
2 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 12 50, 3 00, 5 10, 7 20, 9 30

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
BPI APPLIANCE MADNESS September 9 to 26, 2004	PHILIPPINE ROBOTICS OLYMPIA September 24 TOWN CHEERS CHEERING COMPETITION September 25 and 26	CEBU MEDICAL SOCIETY'S MEDICINE WEEK September 21 to 24, 2004

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GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES featuring ACOUSTIC ANTHOLOGY September 24, 7:00 to 10:00pm	NEO CORPO ART EXHIBIT Sept. 16-30 (Greenbelt 3 Lobby)

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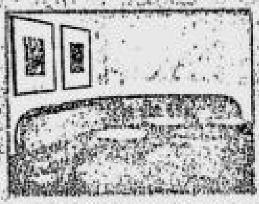
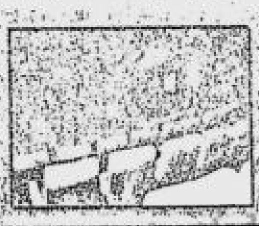
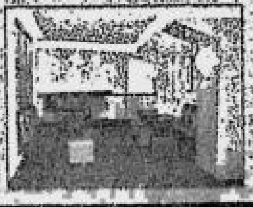

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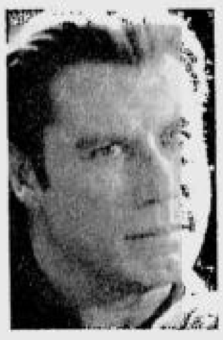

TRAVOLTA. Both lead and character actor.

Two from Travolta

By Nestor U. Torre

JOHN Travolta has become one of the film world's busiest senior leading men and character actors.

After 30 years in films, he's matured into such a textured performer that directors love casting him in their movies.

Failure

It hasn't been a breeze all throughout, and Travolta has tasted the bitterness of failure in the course of his up-and-down career, but he's enjoying much better and busier times these days.

In fact, he has *two* films about to open in town. Interestingly, he gets to play both hero *and* bad guy in his twin-bill outings:

In "Ladder 49," Travolta portrays charismatic fire chief Mike Kennedy, the mentor and role model of firefighter Jack Morrison, played by Joaquin Phoenix.

As the movie's story peaks, Phoenix's character is trapped in an inferno with no way out, and the fire chief feels anguished and helpless.

Especially insightful

Travolta found the film's script especially insightful because it presents firefighters not as super-heroic types, but as people who try to rise above their fears and limitations to help others whose lives are in danger.

He gave the movie everything he had. There was a lot of physical work involved, and training to be a firefighter wasn't easy.

But, the veteran actor steeled his resolve because "I knew that the purpose of the movie was very big. All of us actors in the movie wanted to be a part of this project, because we sensed that it would be something special—and it is!"

Courage

Travolta trusts that the courage of the firefighters in "Ladder 49" will inspire viewers to be similarly selfless in their own lives.

"I hope that they will see that firefighters are just like other people, except for one big difference: They rush into a burning building when the rest of us are running out. That's such a moving image!"

In his other film, "The Punisher," Travolta proves his versatility by radically shifting gears and playing it really villainous.

He's cast as Howard Saint, the head of an organized crime family who kills the title character's family in retaliation for his son's accidental death.

Before he shot the

TWO/ A2-7

Ryan marks golden year with musical retrospective

By Nestor U. Torre

THE MUST-SEE show on Oct. 15 and 16 is "Ryan Cayabyab: The Musicman at 50" at the Main Theater of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The special tribute and musical retrospective is presented by ABS-CBN, which is also marking its 50th anniversary this year.

Multifarious talents

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Saving lives

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Email the author at mandynavasero@photopro.com.ph or mandynavasero@yahoo.com

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Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	Dolby	FENG SHUI 11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm
4	SDDS	BOURNE SUPREMACY 12:10 pm 2:25 pm 4:40 pm 6:55 pm 9:10 pm
5	dts	EXORCIST 12:50 pm 3:30 pm 6:10 pm 8:50 pm
6	Dolby	HEAVEN'S POND 12.00 nn 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9.00 pm
7	Dolby	SAVED 12:15 pm 2:30 pm 4:45 pm 7:00 pm 9:15 pm

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Sep 26	LA SALLE vs F E U
Sep 30	LA SALLE vs F E U (If necessary)
Oct 2	UAAP ALL STAR GAME
Oct 3	PBA ALL FILIPINO Opening Games

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THEATER
MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	TAKAW TINGIN
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL, NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	TAKAW TINGIN
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	THE NOTEBOOK, THE TERMINAL, PRINCESS DIARIES 2, DODGEBALL
PREMIERE THEATRE	ANACONDAS

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	MINDHUNTERS
CINEMA-2	TAKAW TINGIN
CINEMA-3	13 GOING ON 30
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	BETTER THAN SEX (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-6	THE TERMINAL
CINEMA-7	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-8	ALIEN VS PREDATOR
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SAVED
CINEMA-12	HEAVEN'S POND
CINEMA-14	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-15	FENG SHUI

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PINAS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	DODGEBALL
CINEMA-4	[illegible]

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

Two from Travolta

From page A2-6

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"I do agree that his wife steals the show: He's just happy with tit for tat, get the guy who killed my son, and that's it. But she can't stand the idea that it's not going to make her feel better."

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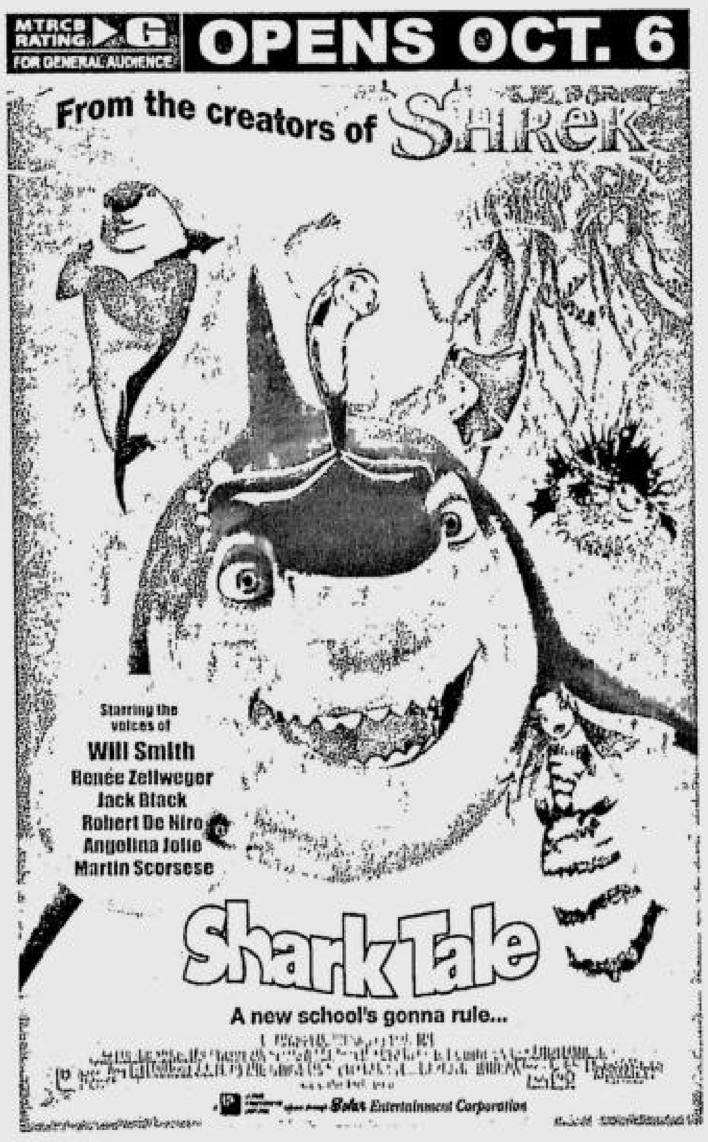

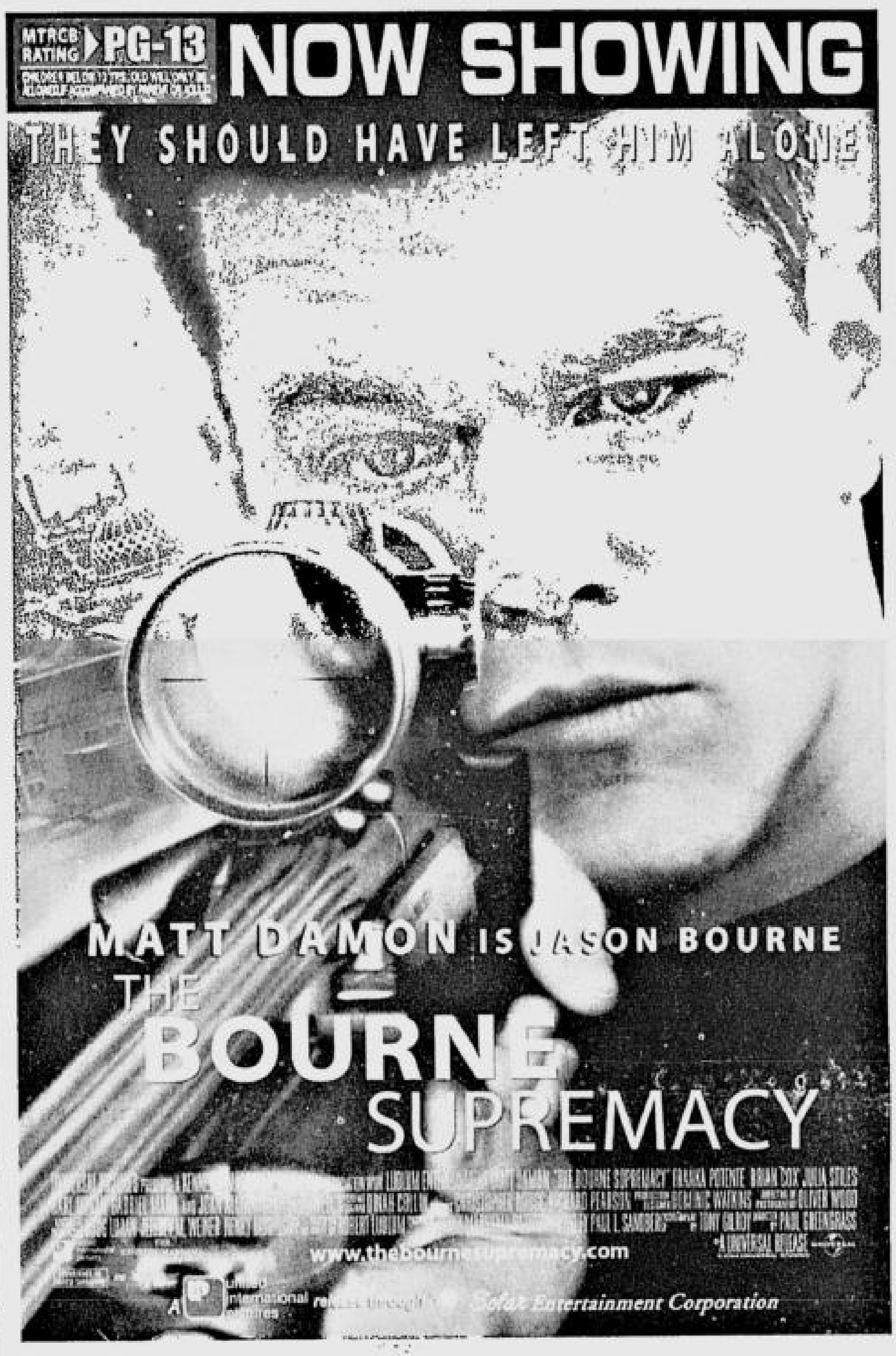
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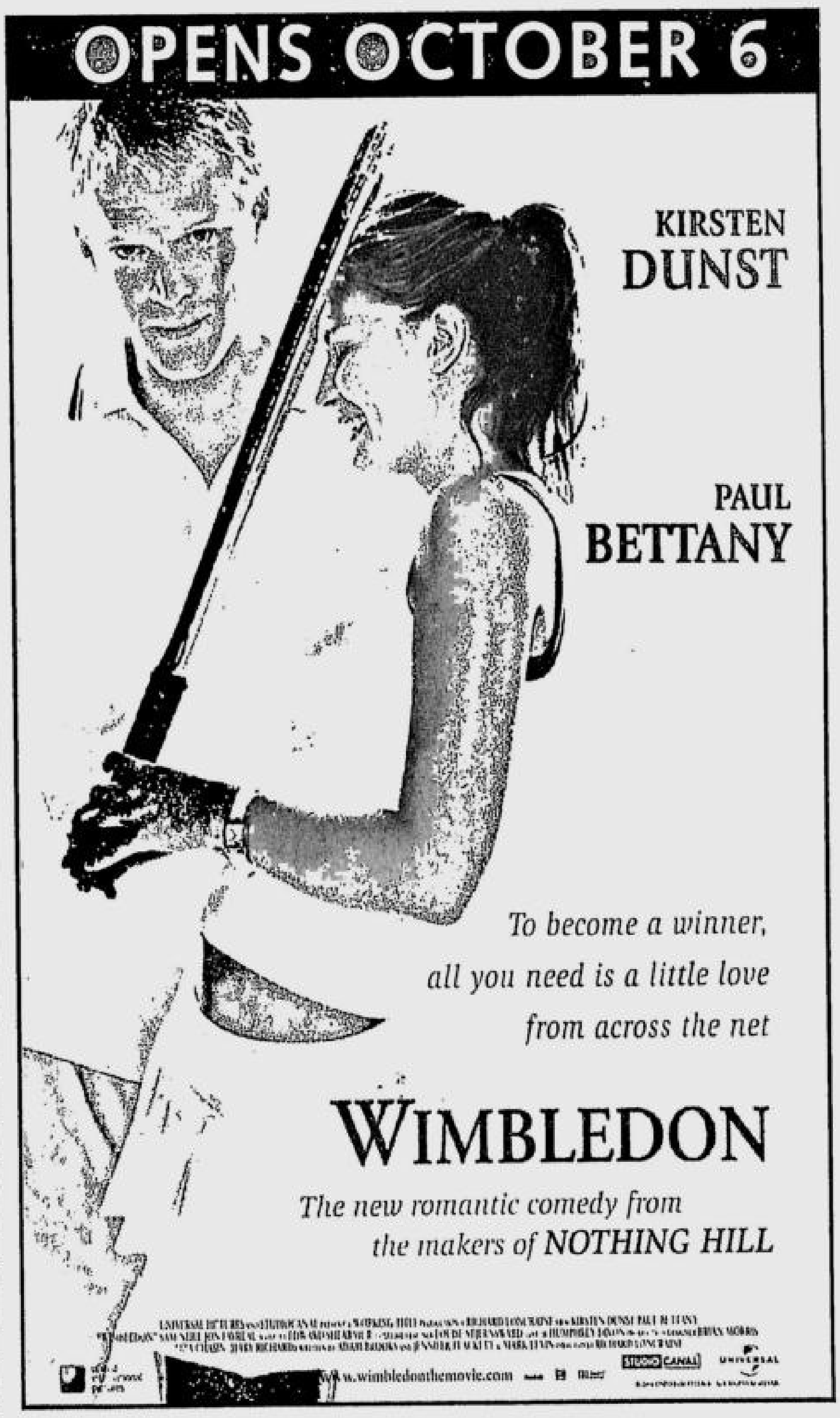
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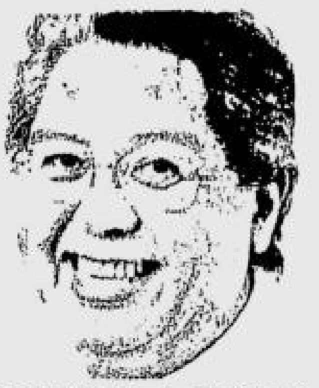

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B	CLOSED
C	

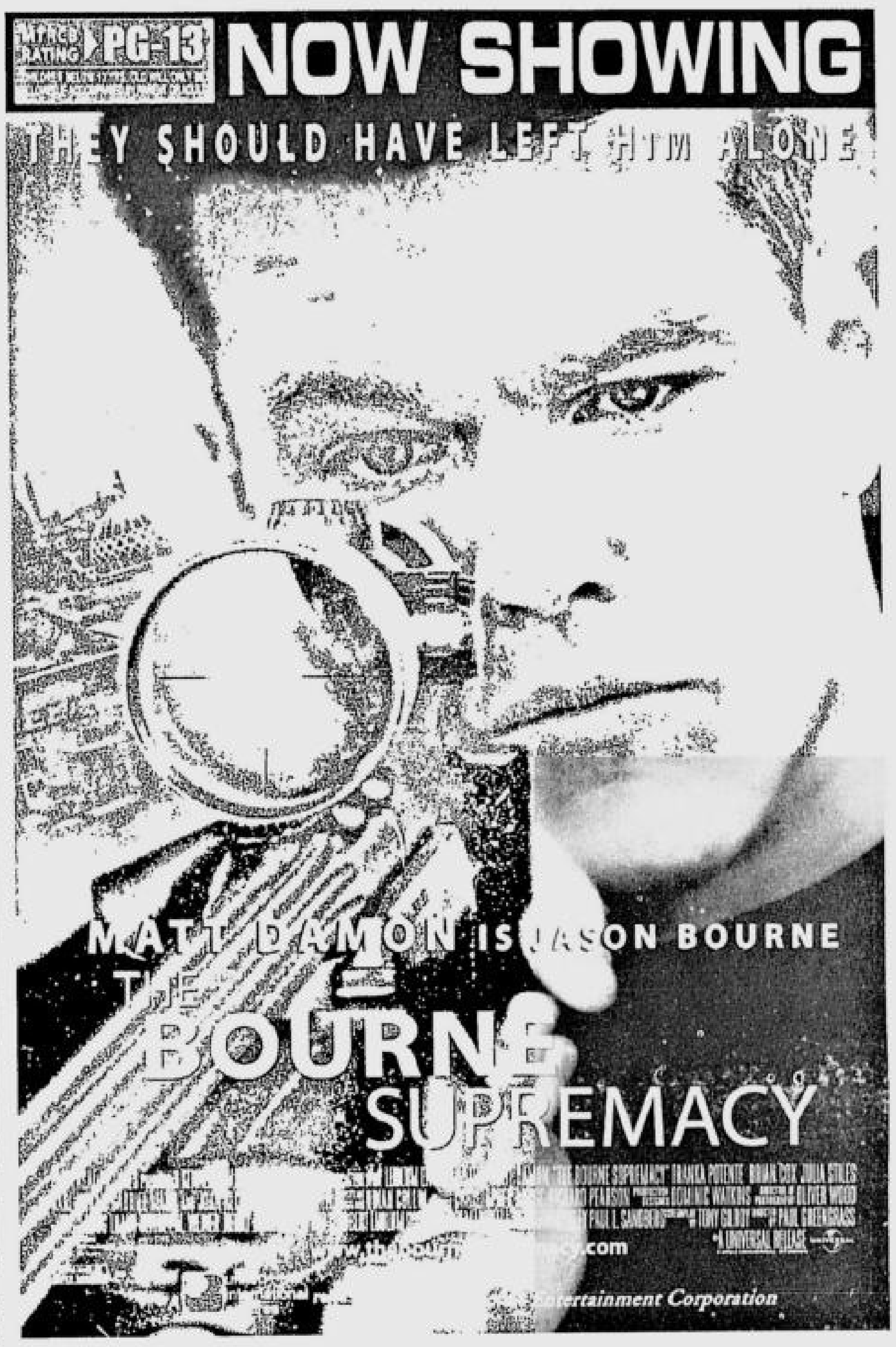
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 ; 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	THE NOTEBOOK, THE TERMINAL, PRINCESS DIARIES 2, DODGEBALL
[illegible]	ANACONDAS

CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	MINDHUNTERS
CINEMA-2	TAKAW TINGIN
CINEMA-3	13 GOING ON 30
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	BETTER THAN SEX (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-6	THE TERMINAL
CINEMA-7	MASARAP BA ANG BAWAL (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-8	ALIEN VS PREDATOR
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SAVED
CINEMA-12	HEAVEN'S POND
CINEMA-14	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-15	[illegible]

LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PINAS)	[illegible]
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA 2	DODGEBALL
CINEMA-4	[illegible]

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA


MTRCB RATING PG-13
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MATT DAMON IS JASON BOURNE
THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
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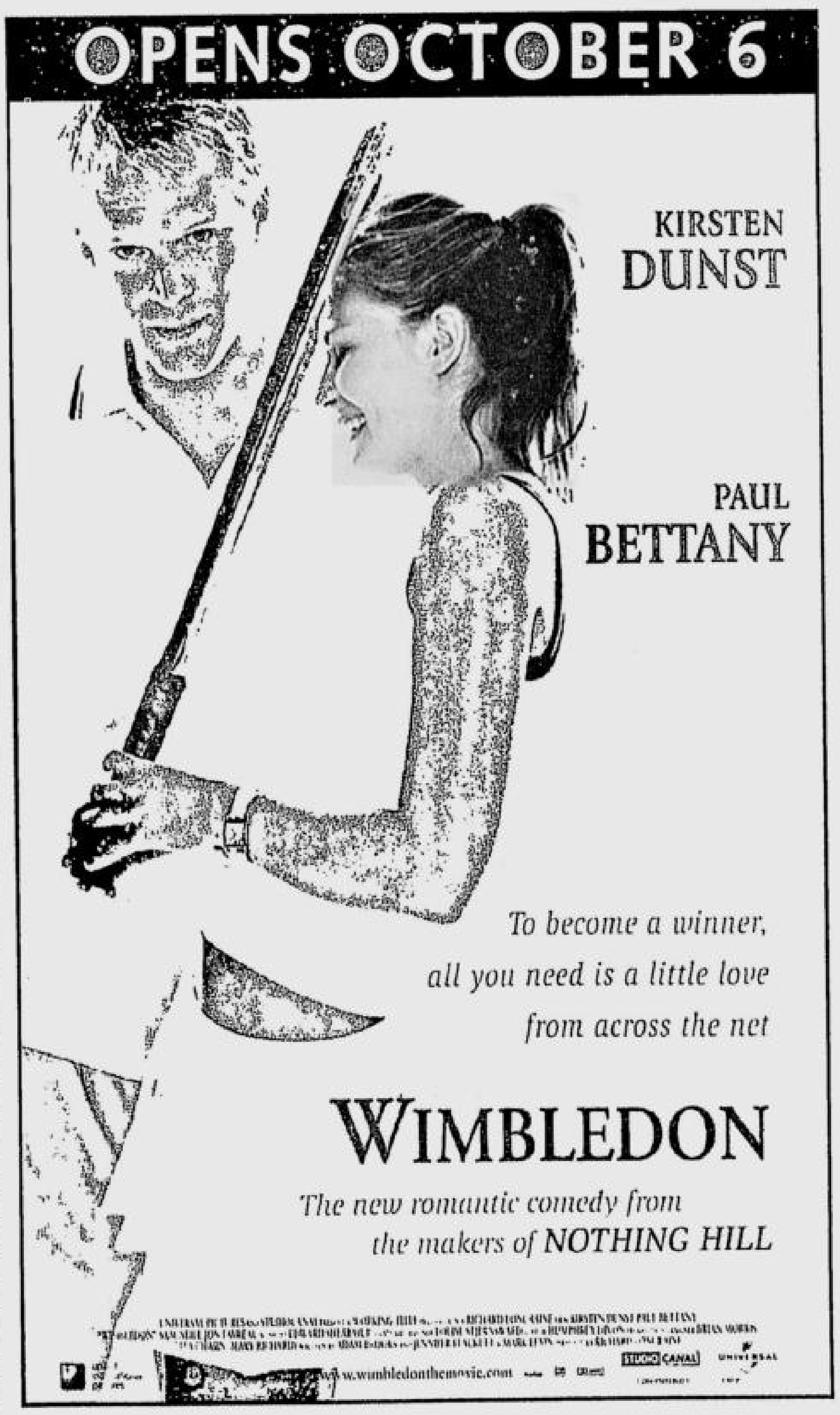
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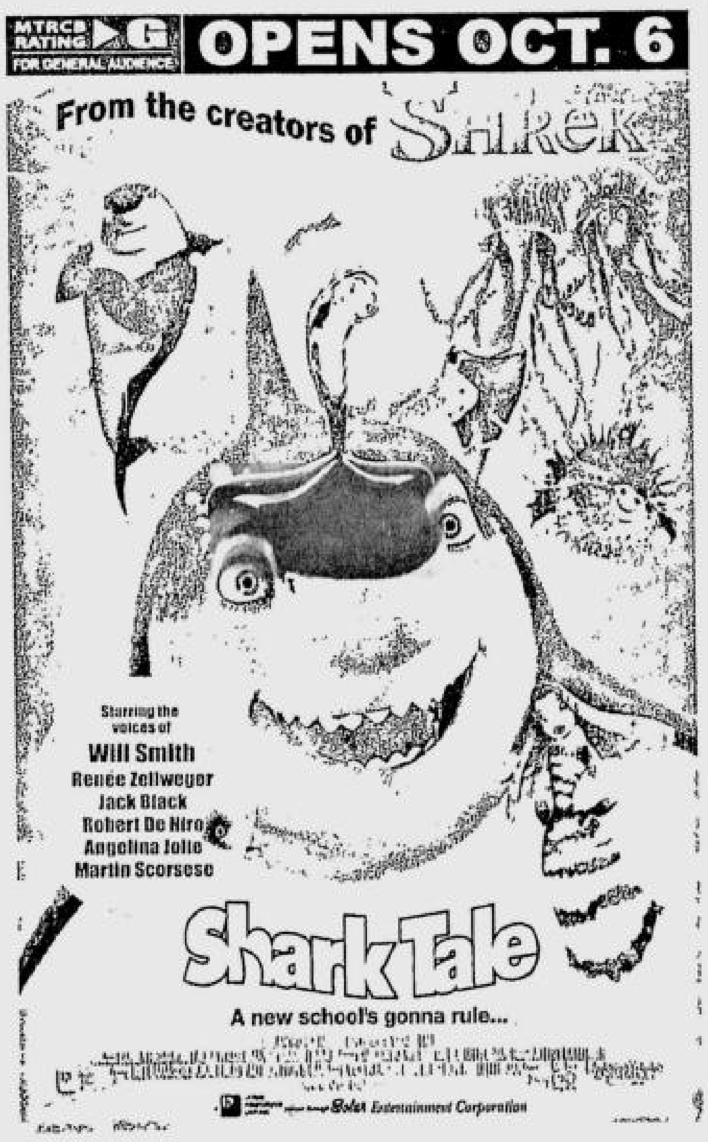

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NOW SHOWING

Three must-see movies

By Rito P. Asilo

"The Bourne Supremacy"

D: Paul Greengrass
S: Matt Damon

THIS week's three must-see movies are as different in scope (an actioner, a dark comedy, and an ever darker drama) as they are uniquely entertaining. In Matt Damon's second outing as Robert Ludlum's amnesiac former spy *cum* assassin, Jason Bourne, he is still haunted by his violent, jigsaw-puzzle past.

When a CIA operation to purchase classified Russian documents goes bust, Bourne finds himself getting stalked, and blamed for consequent deaths and a $3-million theft.

Once again, Jason is on the run, surviving merely on instinct and luck, as he gathers the pieces to make sense of the unfortunate situation · he's been sucked into.

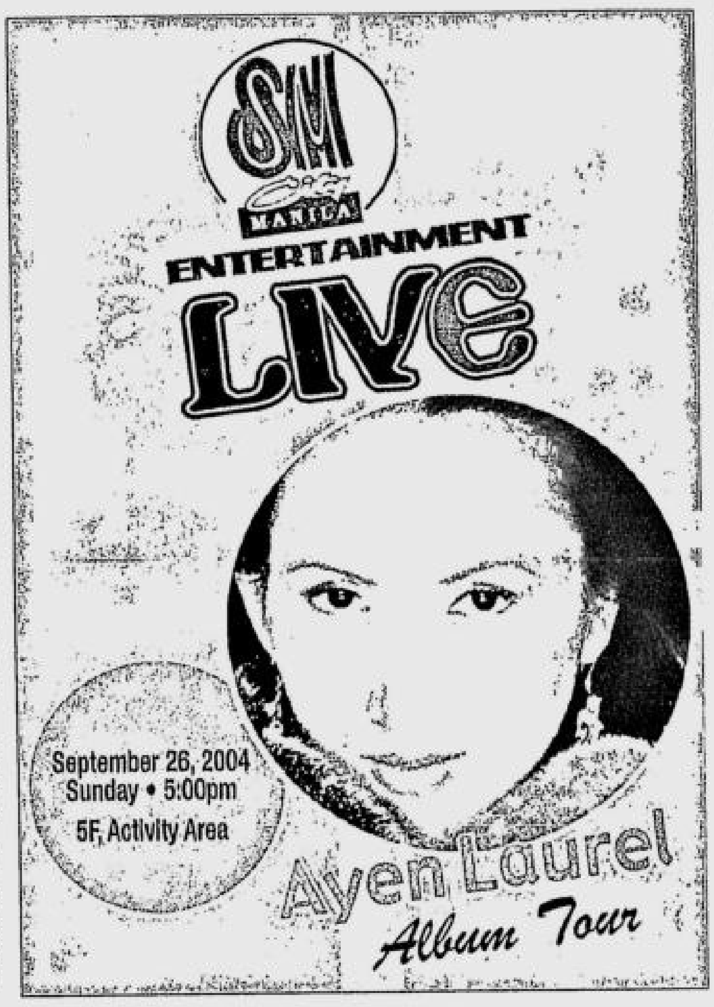
Unfortunately for his antagonists, they chose to pick on the wrong man.

Greengrass' captivating, fast-paced film does not veer away too much from the action formula. You'll find stark implausibilities here and there, but this cinematic thriller is nevertheless instructive to producers of action movies:

Motivations

If you want your slam-bang potboilers to make sense, hire an actor (Damon) who can add believable vulnerability and emotional depth to an action hero's motivations amidst the insouciance of gore and incessant violence, and an astute director

THREE/ A3-2



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PERFECT SKIN HAIR GROWER TONIC *It Really Works*

At last here's the hair grower tonic you've been waiting for all your life - Claire dela Fuente's Perfect Hair Grower Tonic (Herbal Extracts).

The new, sensational product from Claire's newly opened, THE SKIN SHOP at the ground floor of **Virramall**, Greenhills, San Juan, and THE WHITENING STORE at the **Market Market** in Fort Bonifacio has been formulated by the prominent entrepreneur and civic leader herself. After several years of thorough research and experimentation. Perfect Skin Hair Grower Tonic was made available. It has given new hope to bald and balding people.

In just a few months, there is already a long list of satisfied users who are ready to give their positive and encouraging testimonies. Rapid progress in their hair growth has been experienced in so short a time.

Perfect Skin Hair Grower is also supplemented by other products like the Perfect Skin Scalp Cleanser and Perfect Skin Hair Grower Shampoo. With the continuous use of this complete set of Perfect Skin products, hair growth is guaranteed. Even extreme cases of balding have responded to the effectivity and potency of Perfect Skin Hair Grower products.

Perfect Skin Hair Grower Tonic is all herbal and is proven safe to use.

The Skin Shop also offers other Perfect Skin products such as Whitening Creams, Whitening Lotions, high-quality shampoos and hair conditioners, using only the purest natural ingredients.

Dr. Vicky Belo, one of the leading dermatologists and beauty experts said when she personally saw the effectivity of Perfect Skin Hair Grower Tonic: "It's dermatologically illogical but it's working."

Multi-awarded entertainment columnist Ernie Pecho has another amazing testimony: "I have given up all hopes that would see my hair grow again. I have tried all those supposed-to-be hair growers. After only a week of using Perfect Skin Hair Grower Tonic, there were several new hairs on my scalp. Now there are already plenty of hair on top of my formerly nearly totally bald head. And more new hairs are sprouting from empty spaces in which I thought my hair follicles were already dead."

For further information contact Skin Shop at telephone numbers 724-4566, 721-0816 and Belo Medical Group at 817-7178.

Claire dela Fuente at her The Skin Shop in Virra Mall, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila.

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Olstead shows great promise

By Noelani Torre

OLSTEAD. Has an expressive voice and a pretty face.

RENEE Olstead sings like the sultriest of sirens, flutters her eyelashes like the most accomplished of vamps, and smiles with all the mystery of a woman with secrets.

Not that unusual for a jazz vocalist, to be sure, but Ms Olstead's got one thing that your usual singer doesn't—youth. Extreme youth, to be more specific. This particular chanteuse is only 15 years old—and she was only 14 when she released her self-titled jazz greats cover album earlier this year!

Noteworthy

That in itself wouldn't be particularly noteworthy if not for the fact that she sings like someone twice her age and more. Neil Sedaka describes her voice as "Patsy Cline, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday all wrapped in one." We don't quite agree with this assessment, but her voice is pure and she gives a mature and emotionally nuanced performance.

A Houston native, Olstead not only sings, she acts as well. She's been acting since she was five, and her latest appearance in a film was in the Jennifer Garner-starrer, "13 Going On 30." She co-stars in the CBS comedy, "Still Standing." Now that she's signed a five-album contract, however, her acting career seems set to take the back seat.

"Some people may not take me seriously because of my age, but I can't let that stop me," she said in an interview. "Music belongs to all of us."

Backing up this ambitious young singer is the equally ambitious David Foster, whose past successes include masterminding the careers of Celine Dion, Josh Groban, and Michael Bublé. His Svengali-like touch is evident throughout the album, but he keeps it light for once.

The singer's age limits the choice of material somewhat. What, after all, does a pretty 9th grader with supportive parents have to be blue about?

Thus, most of the songs in the playlist consist of lighter, more pop-ish standards including "Is You Or Is You Ain't My Baby," "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Breaking Up Is Hard to Do," "What a Difference a Day Makes," and "A Love That Will Last," which was penned especially for Olstead by Foster and wife Linda Thompson.

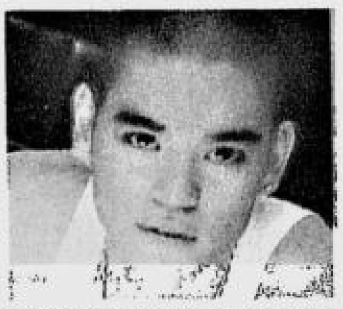
Lazy phrasing

Her age also works against her in some of the more complicated and mature songs like "Summertime," "Meet Me, Midnight," and "Midnight at the Oasis." We appreciate her earnest efforts, but she fumbles over her lazy phrasing in the first song, injects an

RENEE/ A3-3

Music is Jay-R's life

By Jocelyn Valle



JAY-R. First performed at age 11.

MUSIC is Jay-R's life. Aside from singing, the 23-year-old Filipino-American plays the piano and the drums. He had his first taste of performing at 11 when he joined a singing contest. His musical influences include Stevie Wonder, Luther Vandross, Brian McKnight and Usher, but he got his groove from his family.

Vocal cords

His father can whack the drumsticks like a pro, while his mother and two sisters can do wonders with their vocal cords. An uncle is also in a band. "And if there's something troubling my mind, I let it out through a song," Jay-R shares.

Two years ago, Jay-R (real name Gaudencio Aquino Sillona III) quit his computer engineering studies at the DeVry University in the United States to pursue his passion in music.

He then found himself in Manila and got a manager, Geleen Eugenio. Soon, he became a regular on Channel 7's "SOP" and a contract artist of Universal Records.

Possessing the temperament and attitude of rap and R&B sensations Jay-Z and Nelly, Jay-R quickly earned the title Prince of R&B. It also helped that he was being paired with R&B Princess Kyla.

Big break

Jay-R got his big break with the release of his debut album, "Gameface," which spawned the hits "Bakit Pa Ba?" and "Kung Mahal Mo S'ya." It was also spun into hit gigs at the Music Museum last April. The same success is being predicted when Jay-R conquers the Folk Arts Theater tonight with "Gameface Reload."

As the title suggests, the concert is going to be a lot bigger than his past shows. For starters, Jay-R will have Regine, Kyla and Sandara Park as special guests, with top standup comics Anton Diva and Pretty Triszha as front acts.

Nervous

Still, Jay-R is nervous. "I was able to fill up the Music Museum, but the Folk Arts Theater is huge!," he exclaims.

Luckily, Jay-R has built up more than a musical career. He's also popular as an endorser of the undergarments line of Bench. And he's playing Kris Aquino's husband in the comedy-drama, "Que Sera Sera," an entry to this year's Metro Manila Film Festival.

Innocence and sincerity

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

MY spiritual teacher recently spoke to a 12-year-old girl and asked, "What do you want to do?"

She replied, "I want to serve God when I grow up."

He said, "You don't need to wait till you grow up to serve God. Chanting His names is a way of serving Him. That pleases Him. Do you know that God likes you?

The young girl nodded and said, "Yes."

Unconditional

My teacher added, "He doesn't just like you—He loves you very much! His love is unconditional!"

When sages speak about spiritual life and God, they attract innocent and sincere souls. When they share the truth, they liberate people from ignorance and fear. They pass on wisdom, but they also give direction to those who thirst and starve for spiritual shelter and refuge.

It is sad when so-called preachers disseminate the notion of a fearsome Supreme Being, who acts like a policeman and judge waiting for you to make mistakes. Children are sometimes warned by their elders: "God is watching your every move. You will go to hell if you sin!" Thus, children develop a negative feeling towards God, who is perceived as the guy you don't want to deal with.

Uncomplicated

Spiritual life is uncomplicated for a young 12-year-old to grasp and understand. We don't need to be scholarly or wealthy, which may distract us from the truth. We simply need emulate the innocence and sincerity of children. Remember: "Blessed are the children for they shall enter the kingdom of God."

Email lotuspond108@hotmail.com

Giselle competes on 'Extra Challenge'

MONTAGE

SANCHEZ. Veritable gamut of stressful tests.

SINGER-COMEDIENNE Giselle Sanchez has just come back from Malaysia, where she taped the current series of "Extra Challenge" shows for GMA-7. To remain in competition, Giselle ran a veritable gamut of stressful tests. But she was still able to grin and bear it, and even let loose with her signature crazy antics.

What did Giselle take away from the experience? "God answers your prayers—but, if you become mischievous, He'll stop answering them, unless you ask forgiveness."

"It's not the winning, but how you play the game."

And: *Hindi pala* scripted *ang* 'Extra Challenge.' It's really reality TV to the max!"

MTV Credit Card launched

The MTV Credit Card was recently launched at the Temple Bar. The theme of the launch was "MTV Most Wanted." VJs Marc Abaya and Sarah Meier hosted the event, where MTV's signature brand of entertainment was unleashed, with guest performer Kyla, gimmicks, raffles and other exciting treats.

The special buzz over the MTV Credit Card was merited, because bundled into the "most wanted" card are discounts, freebies, perks and privileges that make it more than just a credit facility.

The MTV Credit Card is the latest co-branded card between Equitable CardNetwork Inc. (Equitable Card) and MTV Networks Asia.

Powered by Equitable Card, the card's benefits are suited to fit the lifestyle and interests of today's MTV generation. Applications are accepted at all Equitable-PCI Bank branches. For more information log on to www.equitablecard.com/mtv.

The Pearl's Kiddie Party Package

Parents who want the best party preparation for their children can celebrate at The Pearl Manila Hotel without the hassles and double the fun. Package rates come with set menu or buffet.

Amenities include use of function room or poolside, balloons, loot bags, nametags, birthday cake, cotton candy, souvenir photo, streamer, parking slots, clown/magician, and choice of menu.

The Pearl Manila is at the corner of Taft and UN aves. Call 400-0088 or log on to www.pearlmanila.com.ph. The hotel is managed by Genesis Hotels & Resorts Corp.

Rico and Ethel

Rico J. Puno and Ethel Booba perform in a special show on Oct. 13 at Metro Concert Bar on West ave., QC. Other performers are "Star in a Million" runner-up O.J. Mariano and the Montserrat Male Choir. Call 374-7505.

Somethin' Fishy

Show biz's brightest young stars recently graced the second anniversary celebration of Somethin' Fishy, the popular grill and seafood restaurant at Eastwood City, QC.

Guests included Joross Gamboa, Roxanne Guinoo, Melissa Ricks, Michelle Madrigal, Errol Abalayan, Raphael Martinez, Ahron Villena, Kiko Matos, AJ Dee, Paolo Trillo, Biboy Ramirez, Arnel Ignacio, Lindsay Custodio and Michael Cruz.

Restaurant executives Emma Rose Policarpio, Lito Balquiedra Jr., and Emmalyn and Jose Mari Policarpio laid out an epicurean buffet featuring Somethin' Fishy's best-selling grilled specialties.

'Maala-ala Mo Kaya'

ABS-CBN's popular drama anthology, "Maala-ala Mo Kaya,' is now being telecast in the kingdom of Brunei Darussalam. It airs on the leading free-television network there at 11 a.m. from Monday to Thursday.

Cartoon Network

From 7 a.m. to midnight on Oct.. 21, the "Shock-tober Halloween" telethon will unreel on Cartoon Network. Its treats include the TV premiere of "Billy and Mandy's Jacked Up Halloween" and Cartoon Theater's "Halloween Tree."

Those masked wrestlers from Mexico have their hands full in some wicked wrestling with spooky creatures. Also, if creepy things are happening, you can be sure that Scooby and the gang can't be far behind!

Movies on TV

On HBO, Sept. 25 at 9 a.m., "Hysterical Blindness." Sept. 26 at 11:30 a.m., "Virtuosity." Sept. 27 ay 11:30 a.m., "Little Nikita." Sept. 28 at 8:15 p.m., "The Quick and the Dead."

On Cinemax, Sept. 25 at 10:30 a.m., "True Crime." Sept, 26 at 12:45 p.m., "Dolores Claiborne." Sept. 27 at 9 p.m., "The Prince of Tides." Sept. 28 at 5:30 p.m., "Peggy Sue Got Married." Sept. 29 at 9 p.m., "Dreamcatcher." Sept. 30 at 11 p.m., "Jagged Edge."

MORENO poses with his lovely signature models.

Tribute to Pitoy Moreno at CCP

By Nestor U. Torre

COJUANGCO. Two worthwhile programs.

FOR some months now, we have been concerned about the financial woes of the Cultural Center of the Philippines due to reduced subsidies and "donor fatigue."

Since the CCP's cultural endeavors are important, we've been supporting fundraising efforts to add to the CCP's coffers, so it can continue with its laudable people-oriented artistic projects.

We wrote about the benefit art auction held at the Main Theater's lobby earlier this year, and we've launched our own modest fundraising effort by mounting two musical productions, "Magsimula Ka" and "Magnificat," to generate funds for the CCP, with performances all over the country (until the end of the year).

Our next performances will be in Alabang, General Santos and Ifugao. (If your group or school wants the musicals staged in your locality, call 780-9210 or 0919-206-5424).

Next fundraising initiative

We're also upbeat about the CCP's next fundraising initiative, "Ginintuang Moreno: A Tribute to J. Moreno," a grand fashion retrospective of Pitoy's collections over the years.

The benefit production (it is also a fundraiser for Gawad Kalinga) will be staged on Oct. 26 and 27 at the CCP's Main Theater. The tribute presentation will highlight Pitoy's superb craftsmanship, beadwork, hand painting, and use of traditional Philippine material in his contemporary designs.

The program will feature the CCP's resident companies, guest artists and fashion models who have worked with Moreno.

Project

Imelda Cojuangco is the honorary chairman of the committee overseeing the project, which is made up of CCP chair Emily A. Abrera, CCP president Nestor O. Jardin, and the members of the CCP Board of Trustees.

Cojuangco observes, "This event will benefit two worthwhile programs aimed at uplifting the physical and moral needs of our less fortunate brothers."

Jardin adds, "We will do Arts for the People projects in Gawad Kalinga communities. It isn't enough to build infrastructure, we also need to use art and culture to unite and give soul to the community."

And Abrera stresses, "This project recognizes that art emanates from different aspects of everyday life. It enables us to get away from the confines of a gallery that seem to suggest that art is material that is exhibited for aesthetic purposes. Art exists around us and can have a use in everyday life!"

Mutual friends

For our part, we especially value Pitoy's work because it was personally introduced to us by our mutual friends Elvira Manahan, Cheloy Dans and Marichu Maceda (in relation to his designing gowns for Sampaguita Pictures' "galaxy" of movie stars).

Once, when we directed a theater presentation in Moscow starring Boots Anson-Roa and Tommy Abuel, we were double-billed with Pitoy's touring fashion cavalcade, and we saw how hard he worked, and what a perfectionist he was.

Then, when the legendary Katy dela Cruz was in town for our "Katy!" musical, Pitoy threw a party for her and the other members of the cast, and we saw what a truly appreciative supporter of the arts he was.

Social cachet

Some months ago, we interviewed Pitoy at length for a book we've been writing on Sampaguita Pictures. We sought Pitoy out because he was instrumental not just in designing clothes that made the studio's contract actresses look more like stars, but also in enhancing their social cachet.

For these and other reasons, we look forward to "Ginintuang Moreno" at the CCP on Oct. 26 and 27. We trust that you too will make it a point to patronize that special tribute and fundraising show. Call CCP Marketing at 832-1125 local 1800-1806.

Three must-see movies

From page A3-1

who can logically lace a film's explosive details with quick wit and—would you believe?—unforced humor.

"Saved!"

D: Brian Dannelly

S: Mandy Moore, Macaulay Culkin

Brian Dannelly's refreshingly irreverent and effusively entertaining dark comedy is a highly-charged satire on religious fanaticism in a high school setting. Think "Mean Girls"—in a Christian school!

The sheltered life of a good, popular, bible-reading Christian girl, Mary (Jena Malone), is shattered when her hunky Christian boyfriend, Dean, reveals that he is gay.

Earnestly believing that homosexuality is a big no-no in a God-centric world, she offers up her virginity as a cure for his "malady." One day, Dean is sent by his parents to Mercy House, a Christian treatment facility that deals with everything from drug abuse, alcoholism and "degayification," leaving Mary to deal with own guilt and social embarrassment.

Her best friend, a co-member of her school's Christian girl band, the popular Hilary Faye (Mandy Moore), the sister of a handsome, spiritually ambivalent cripple (an adult Macaulay Culkin)—who is attracted to the only Jewish girl in school—gathers up everybody to her place to "pray over" Dean's "affliction"! Oh, and did we mention, she was pregnant? What *is* a girl to do?

Astonishingly smart and whiplash-paced, the movie slows down towards the end when it decides to take the high school-comedy route. But, the digs are dead-on and relevant, even in our setting. Obviously, this is not for everybody, but the humor is to irresistible to miss.

"Secretary"

D: Steven Shainberg

S: James Spader, Maggie Gyllenhall

Steven Shainberg's brilliantly original, dark dramedy follows the life of twentysomething Lee Holloway (Maggie Gyllenhaal) who, after a brief stay at a mental institution, is hired as a secretary in a local

THREE/ A3-3

'Secrets' makes titillation trite

By Nestor U. Torre

ABC-5 has been coming up with new shows practically every month, in its laudable intent to establish itself as a good alternative for viewers already sated with the often predictable fare on the two leading channels.

One way to get noticed is to dare (and verbally bare), so Channel 5 has come up with a sexy talk show for adults, "Secrets," hosted by the sensuous Juliana Palermo.

Initially, the daring show had problems with the MTRCB, which didn't approve its pilot episode for airing. Adjustments have obviously been made, because we caught the new show on Channel 5 late some Tuesdays ago.

Experiences

The topic up for discussion was modeling, especially of the "underwear" or otherwise sexy sort. The female and male models who were Palermo's guests shared ostensibly amusing and bemusing recollections of their experiences in this regard, and everyone appeared to have a winkingly good time doing so.

This viewer found himself unable to share their delight, however. After a while, I found the naughty patter tedious, repetitive and shallow.

To make things worse, Palermo was often rather clueless about what a good, in-charge TV talk show host is supposed to do. So for the most part, the program had neither focus nor flow, and just went from one question to the next.

Training

In time, of course, the lovely host should improve, but why must she do her learning on the show, at the expense of the audience?

The better way would have been for her mentors in the production to give her months of off-camera training with mock guests and interviews, before foisting her on hapless viewers.

I don't doubt that Palermo is a promising find as a TV personality. In fact, when I saw her in her first sexy film starrer, I noted that she appeared to be more with-it than many other screen ecdysiasts.

But, there's a world of difference between being a savvy talker off-camera, and a competent TV talk show host.

In fact, some veteran hosts confide that it took them many months before they got the hang of the seemingly simple but actually quite complex job.

Demands

Clearly, Palermo was (still is?) unaware of the considerable demands of her latest assignment. It's a feather on her cap, to be sure, but the feather is looking rather frayed because of her relatively clueless performance to date.

Now, about the program's fixation on sexy and titillating patter: There's room for adult topics on late-night TV, but it shouldn't be of the shallow, winking sort. There are so many aspects of Filipino sexuality that can be more productively tackled—*if* Palermo and her guests are up to it.

If the show remains at the shallow winking-grinning-nudging level, it could more readily get into trouble with the MTRCB again, or cause some viewers to eventually lose interest in it, due to its predictably leering attitude. What the nation needs *least* is trite titillation.

PALERMO. Clueless about what a good, in-charge TV host is supposed to do.

Three must-see movies

From page A3-2

law firm in her hometown. She soon develops an obsessive crush on her boss, Mr. Grey (James Spader), and is unable to hide her increasingly disturbing attraction towards him.

She then engages in a bizarrely undefinable relationship with him, as she slowly gains the confidence and self-esteem that's been lacking in her life.

But, their "relationship" takes a more twisted turn when they willingly dabble in sadomasochism and submission. Breakthrough performances from Gyllenhaal and indie poster boy Spader—if you can sit through their fetishes!

Renee...

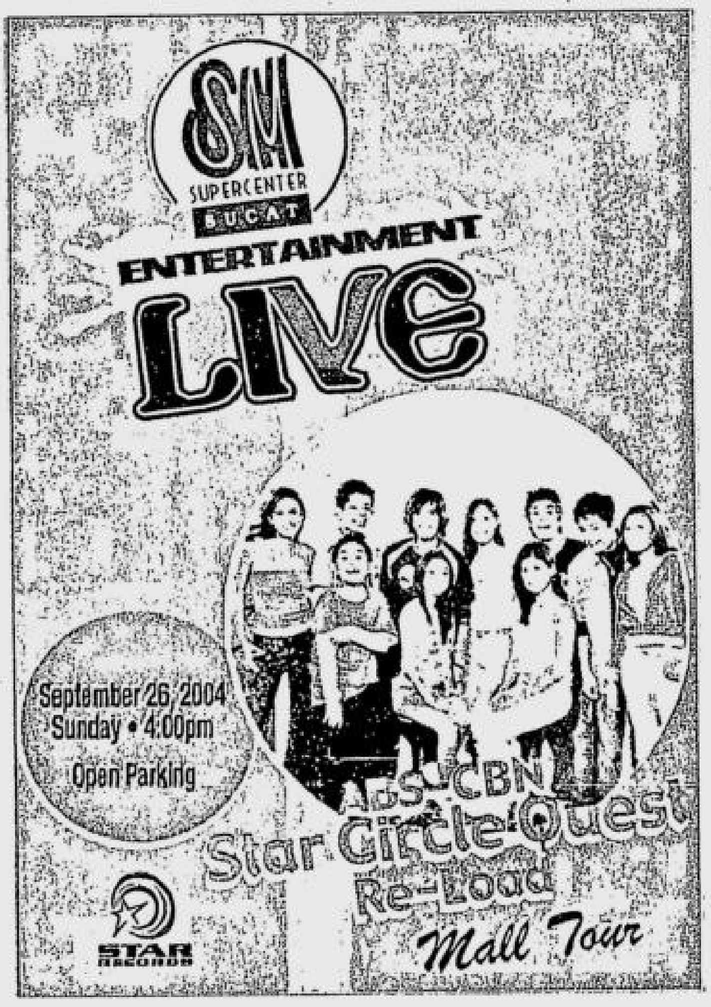
From page A3-2

awkward scat in the Barry Manilow classic—and she's just too young for the hi-jinks going on at the oasis!

We also don't like the way she's being presented, image-wise. A 15-year-old projecting sultry, heavy-lidded sex wiggs us out. The kid still has her baby fat, for goodness' sake! They ought to respect her youth and not make her something she's not yet prepared to be.

Renee Olstead is not the savior of jazz that she projects herself to be, but she does show tremendous promise. She's already got the goods—a lovely voice, fine phrasing, and a pretty face.

We look forward to listening to her when she gets the experience to back it all up with.



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DOF bucks House version of tax amnesty

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance has expressed dismay over the decision of the Lower House to include delinquent taxpayers with pending court cases in the coverage of the proposed tax amnesty, saying it was not the intent of the tax measure to offer a compromise to just any tax evader.

The DOF reiterated that the Arroyo administration's tax amnesty proposal should only be offered to taxpayers whose unpaid liabilities have not yet been detected by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Granting a tax amnesty even to tax delinquents whom the BIR is already going after could weaken the government's efforts to improve the level of tax compliance in the country, the DOF added.

The House ways and means committee approved on Thursday a tax amnesty bill.

The Lower House's version of the tax measure offers amnesty even to tax delinquents whose unpaid tax liabilities have already been assessed by the BIR and who have pending court cases.

Under House Bill No. 2933, delinquent taxpayers who apply for a tax amnesty will only have to pay an amnesty tax equivalent to 3 percent of their networth instead of the total amount of their back taxes.

"Taxpayers already assessed by the BIR should not be included. Why would you allow them to pay only a small amount when the BIR has already determined their actual liabilities and will only have to go after them and collect," a ranking finance official said.

The official said Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong, who is currently abroad for a two-week roadshow for foreign investors, has directed DOF officials to strongly lobby for the DOF's own tax amnesty proposal.

While the Lower House did not adopt the DOF's thoughts on the tax amnesty, Amatong wanted to get a better chance in the Senate, the source said.

Under the DOF's tax amnesty proposal, delinquent taxpayers who have been assessed by the BIR or have pending court cases would not be eligible for the tax amnesty.

Revenue Commissioner Guillermo Parayno Jr. earlier said in disgust that past efforts of the BIR to detect tax delinquency and build cases against them might become useless.

Parayno added that the government would only be at the losing end if tax delinquents with court cases were to be covered by the tax amnesty, explaining that instead of collecting more revenue from people who have already been assessed by the BIR, the government would collect a miniscule 3 percent of their back taxes.

Parayno said if taxpayers with assessments and pending court cases would also be covered by the tax amnesty, they should be imposed a higher amnesty tax rate.

He said taxpayers with assessments should pay an amnesty tax equivalent to 20 percent of their networth, while those with pending court cases should be imposed an amnesty tax of 30 percent.

A tax amnesty is one of the eight revenue-enhancement measures being pushed by the Arroyo administration for legislation to help ease the country's pressing fiscal problem.

The objective of the tax amnesty is to allow the government to expand the tax base by encouraging underground businesses or delinquent taxpayers to come out and pay only a small portion of their tax liabilities in exchange for immunity from penalties.

The Lower House expected that its version of the tax amnesty proposal would help the government raise an additional revenue of P9 billion.

Aside from the tax amnesty, other measures being pushed by the Arroyo administration include the P2 increase in petroleum taxes, the indexation to inflation of taxes on tobacco and alcohol, increase in the value added tax rate, rationalization of fiscal incentives, shift from net to gross income tax, implementation of an attrition system for government agencies, and imposition of franchise tax on telecommunication companies.

The eight measures are expected to generate P80 billion in additional annual revenue for the government.

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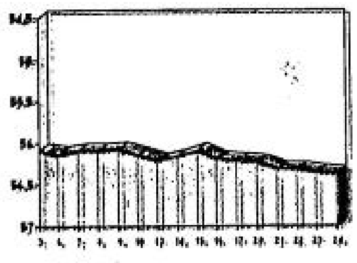

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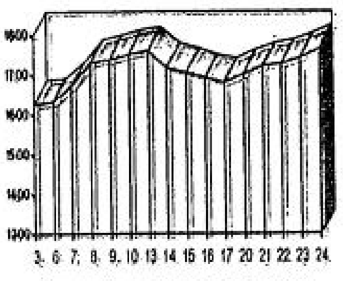
STOCK MARKET

Stocks at 4-½-yr high



(See stock market report on Page B5)

STOCKS rose to their highest in nearly 4-½ years yesterday after the central bank kept interest rates steady and said it expected inflationary pressure to ease by the middle of next year.

Top telecom players PLDT and Globe Telecom Inc. led the market higher, along with leading conglomerate Ayala Corp.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT), the country's largest phone firm, jumped 1.46 percent or P20 to P1,390, tracking the 2.68 percent rise in PLDT ADRs, which are traded in New York.

Second-ranked phone firm Globe Telecom, which is jointly owned by Ayala Corp. and Singapore Telecommunications, rose 1.87 percent or P20 to P1,090.

Ayala Corp., the country's largest business group which also has interests in property development, banking, and utilities, ended 1.56 percent or 10 centavos higher at P6.50.

The main index finished 1.19 percent or 20.74 points higher at 1,763.30 points, the highest since April 10, 2000, and marking the fifth straight gain. The stock market is up 22.2 percent so far this year.

Gainers beat losers 58 to 16.

"The central bank's move to keep the

STOCKS/B5

NTC seeks registration of imported cell phones

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE NATIONAL Telecommunications Commission has estimated that about 5 million mobile phone handsets enter the country each year to support a growing subscriber base.

The commission is preparing a regulation that will require cellular phone suppliers and dealers to first secure an approval from the NTC before they could import in a bid to prevent smuggling and ensure that these handsets go through legitimate channels.

Mobile phone suppliers or dealers must get the approval of the NTC and pay a P50 fee per handset before the government would issue a permit for the importation of the units.

"We want to see to it that appropriate duties and taxes are being paid. We want to prevent smuggling of handsets as well as raise additional revenue for the government," NTC Chair Ronald Solis said in an interview.

Solis said the NTC was hoping to generate additional revenue of P250 million a year once the circular would take effect by the end of the year or early next year. The NTC said it could deliver about a billion pesos in revenue to the government this year out of the fees it collect.

With the NTC authorization comes a sticker that should be put on each mobile unit.

"The Commission shall maintain a list of all registration numbers, the supplier or dealer to which the numbers are assigned and the type of model of the cellular units registered," the NTC said in a draft circular.

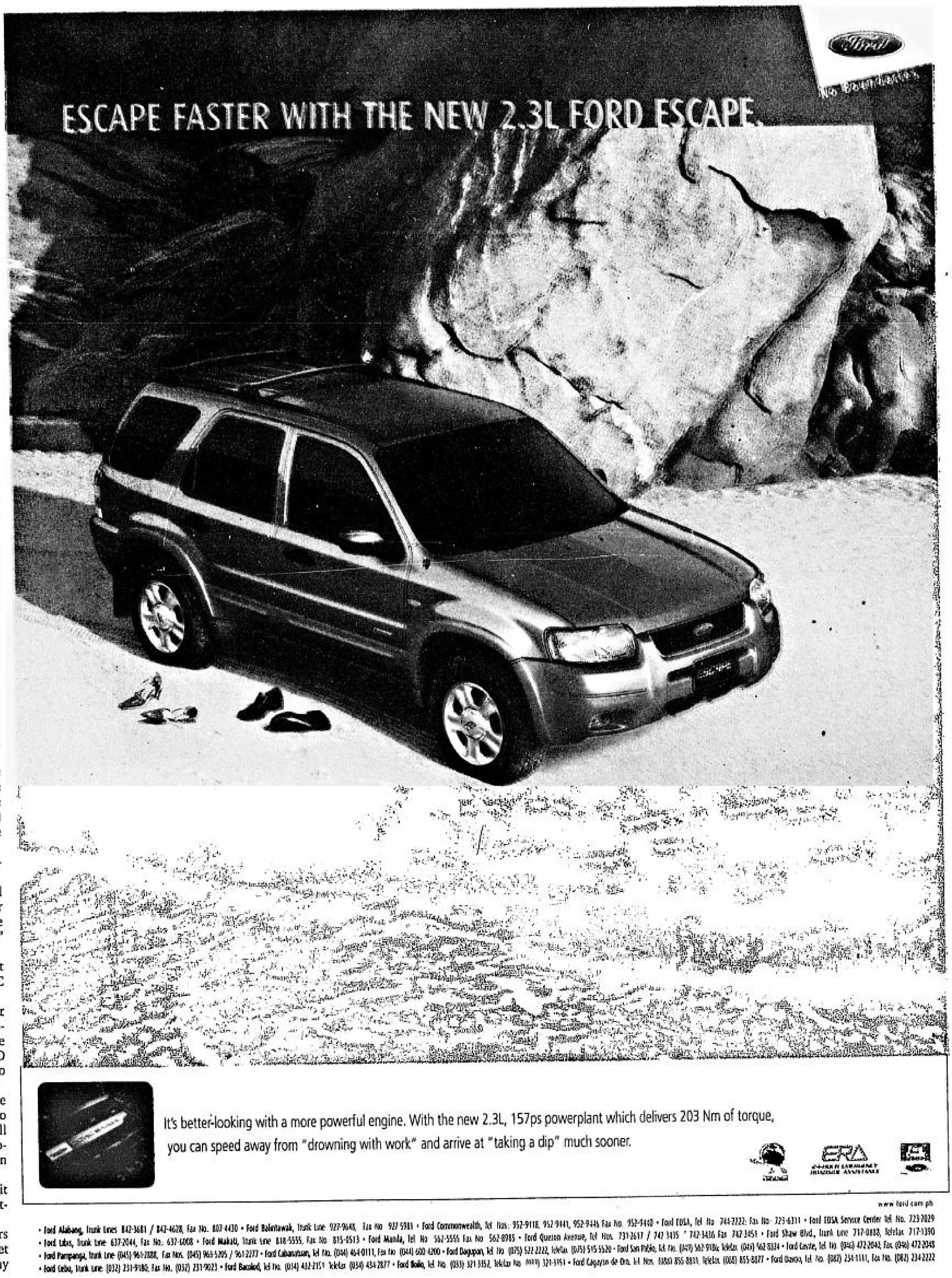
It said said all suppliers and dealers must only sell mobile units registered with the NTC or face penalties.

The NTC said it was authorized to order such a registration and collect the corresponding fee based on the powers that the Public Telecommunications Policy Act and EO 546 gave it. The two laws mandate the NTC to regulate phone, media and cable companies.

"This circular is meant to institutionalize type approval. Some phones already undergo type approval with the NTC. We just want all the imported handsets to go through the process to ensure that these were brought in through legitimate channels," Solis said.

He said the NTC would also like to see to it that mobile handsets conformed with acceptable standards observed worldwide.

With more than 27 million subscribers now, the Philippines has become a big market for handset manufacturers like Nokia, Sony Ericsson, Motorola, Siemens and others.



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OPEN ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICE

Households may get to choose own power supplier

By Abigail L. Ho

EVEN household power users may eventually get the freedom to choose their own power suppliers as the Energy Regulatory Commission mulls over the expansion of the contestable market for electricity to include customers at the household level.

With the initial implementation of retail competition and open access transmission service (OATS) in Luzon on July 1, 2006, power consumers using at least 1 megawatt (MW) of electricity a month will be able to choose from which power producer they source their power requirements.

Under the OATS, these large power end-users will be allowed to use the National Transmission Corp.'s transmission lines to access electricity from the power distributor of their choice.

However, under the ERC's recently issued timeline for the implementation of retail competition and open access, the threshold level for the contestable market could go down over the years to reach the household demand level.

The contestable market refers to electricity end-users that have the power to choose their electricity provider.

By July 1, 2008, two years after the implementation of retail competition and open access in Luzon, the ERC will bring down to 750 kilowatts (kW) the minimum power usage level for the contestable market.

At this level, aggregators—or entities that consolidate power demand from the contestable market for purchasing and reselling electricity on a group basis—can supply power to end-users with an aggregate demand of at least 750 kW.

Aggregators can be individuals, firms or even homeowners' associations in subdivisions and villages.

After July 1, 2008, the ERC will review how the market is doing, for the purpose of determining at which level the threshold for the contestable market may be brought down.

"Subsequently and every year thereafter, the ERC shall evaluate the performance of the market," the energy commission said in its issued timeline. "On (that) basis, (the ERC) may further expand the contestable market until it reaches the household demand level."

For Luzon electric cooperatives, implementation of retail competition and open access would start on July 1, 2007.

According to the ERC timeline, the regulatory body will issue a separate timetable for the implementation of retail competition and open access in the Visayas and Mindanao.

In Wednesday's forum at the University of the Philippines, Energy Secretary Vincent Perez said that the Visayas open access would start six months after the implementation in the Luzon grid.

Before open access can be implemented, though, several conditions have to be met, as stated in the Epira.

These include the ERC's approval of unbundled transmission and distribution wheeling charges, the initial implementation of the cross-subsidy removal scheme, the establishment of a wholesale electricity spot market, the privatization of at least 70 percent of the National Power Corp.'s generating capacity in Luzon and Visayas, and the transfer of management and control of at least 70 percent of the total energy output of Napocor's independent power producers to IPP administrators.

Gas not always greener

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

IT NOW seems a long time ago—it was actually a very long time ago—when we last talked about the notorious "fake" LPG.

Last June, after a series of raids by the NBI and the police on makeshift factories (i.e. backyard) of the so-called "refillers" of liquefied petroleum gas, we commented on the campaign of this cute administration of Gloriaetta against fake LPGs.

Trying to elevate the debate between the "refillers" and the big oil companies, we sort of told the "refillers" then, in so many words, something like, "beh, buti nga!"

For whatever the argument of the 200 or so "refillers" in the country, falling either under the LPG Refillers Association or the breakaway group LPG Marketers Association, our biggest concern as consumers is, was and will be ... well, SAFETY!

And so you can imagine my delight upon hearing that the "refillers" are now changing their tune. To them it is not an issue of safety. Fake LPG, they say, is cheap! You now—it's the greener grass argument!

Of course, no! Fake is supposed to be cheap. Since when did the "fake" item become more expensive than the real thing, except perhaps in a boob-job!

* * *

CHEAP is fine. And so the hundreds of LPG "refillers" all over the country now play around in what seems to be their orchestrated media campaign, an issue close to the heart of my mother. And that is, "price."

The capitalist pigs known as the big oil companies are just increasing the price of LPG at will. They do not even bother to announce the increases beforehand. The devils must be raking it in. And so on and so forth!

What I gather from their new campaign line is that the fake LPG is better, because the fake LPG is cheaper than the original branded LPG. Hmm.

Surely, because of the hard times today, as oil prices have gone somewhere up there in the stratosphere, anything cheap is good for us, the consumers, excluding of course our mothers-in-law, provided they use their own money and not ours.

"Cheap," anyway, should always stay in its proper context.

Down here in my barangay, for instance, the proper context for cheap is "Greenhills"—as in "fake" items like DVDs and T-shirts. Fake movies and fake branded clothes do not kill.

* * *

BUT before you copy our senators—who took the word of Kuya Eddie on the Smokey Mountain issue hook, line and sinker—let me just cite a few causes of the fast and furious increase in the price of just about anything nowadays.

The biggest factor is, as I said, the increase in the price of oil. I have news for new: LPG is made from oil! Got it, Bong and Lito?

In the case of LPG, based on figures from the Department of Energy, the international price actually doubled in the past six years.

From about $150 per metric ton in 1998, today LPG fetches a price of $300 per metric ton, if you are lucky. Some other time it can and does go up to $305 or $310.

Add to that the peso depreciation in the past few years, and you have reason to envy the OFWs earning dollars or any other foreign currency.

You see, the peso's exchange rate weakened so much in the past few years, now you need twice the pesos you needed, say, six years ago, to pay for one dollar of imported LPG. Again, that's double!

And those, ladies and gentlemen, are the main reasons for the price increase. Not the mothers-in-law, okay?

* * *

ALL RIGHT, so to attract gullible buyers of fake goods, some "refillers" cut their selling price. One, they cut the price by just a few centavos lower than those of the branded LPG. Two, they do it here and there only, and not everywhere.

It is, in other words, not a uniform cut. A lot of them still sell at the same price as the branded LPG, by passing off the "fake" items as "genuine."

But here is the thing, Bonjing. The "refillers" do not even have to put up a lot of money to go into the illegal business of faking.

They don't invest billions of pesos to make the LPG cylinders, for instance. They just steal the cylinders of the well-known brands like Petron.

To top it all, by using the very same cylinders of the legitimate LPG makers, they can easily pass on the "fake" as the real mackoy.

In one raid done by the NBI recently, the government seized about 3,000 empty cylinders of just one brand of LPG. Imagine, how many "fake" LPGs are going around the country today!

* * *

BUT are the "fake" LPGs safe?

Well, if you ask me, they are as safe as the "escort" girls in the company of congressmen and senators.

When we buy the genuine article, the companies making them stake their names and reputation on the brand. They are backed up by all sorts of scientific research and laboratory test on the particular product.

Yet, because the "refillers" claim that they buy the very same LPG from the big oil companies, they are actually selling the very same product up to the last nucleus in the atom of every molecule of gas in the LPG cylinder.

The "fake," in short, is just the same as the "orig!" Yeah, since when?

For why do you think that the "refillers" try pass the "fake" off as the genuine product? To avoid the responsibility, what else?

Based on police estimates, some 500 fires in the past few years were due to faulty cylinders. Believe me, the "fake" is

BREAKTIME/ B8

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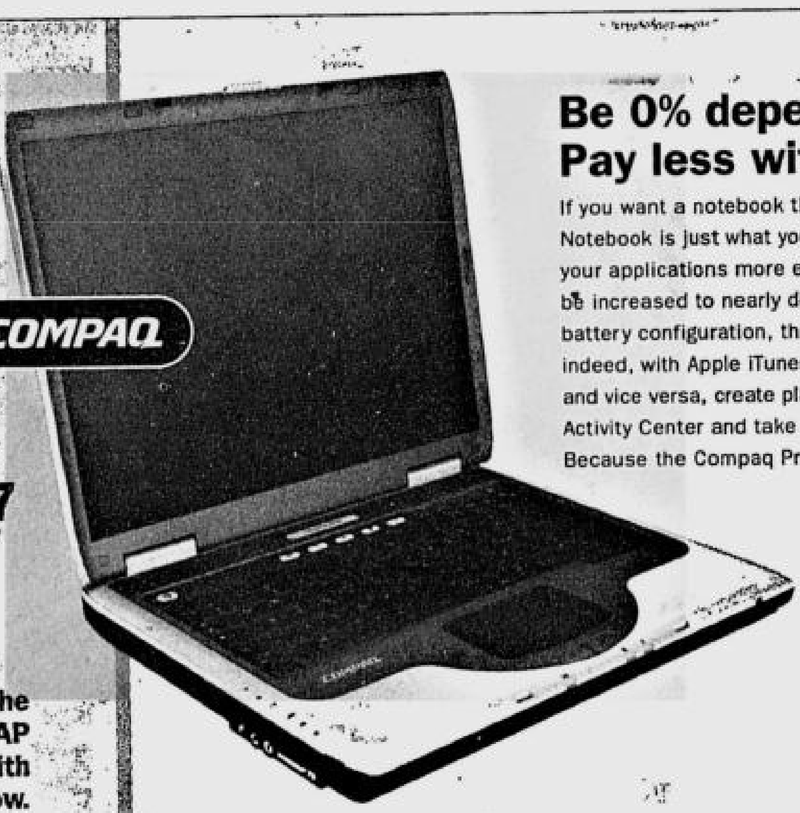

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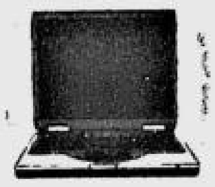

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Local insurers seeking SRO status

By Doris C. Dumlao

PHILIPPINE insurers have committed to work with regulators to establish stricter industry standards that will enable them to qualify for self-regulatory organization (SRO) status in line with the regional trend.

Philippine American Life and General Insurance Co. (Philamlife) president Jose Cuisia Jr., who also heads the Philippine Association of Life Insurers, said Asean insurers were moving toward a regime of self-governance.

In a press briefing after the Asean Insurance Industry Meetings, Cuisia said standards must be set to prepare the group in handling this responsibility.

In the local setting, the SRO status is given by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)to entities such as the Philippine Stock Exchange. It empowers the organization to regulate the conduct and activities of its members subject to the supervision of the SEC.

Insurance Commissioner Ben Santos said that within the Asean, it was only Singapore that had so far succeeded in giving the SRO status to its local insurers.

"It took them four years to do it," he said.

"We will look at it and see if it's applicable to the Philippines," he added.

Working toward an SRO status was among those discussed by the life insurance sector during the Asean insurers meetings. The Asean insurers agreed that standards that would be established should be acceptable to the regulators in their respective countries.

The discussions also revolved around closer cooperation among Asean regulators to:

- ensure a level playing field between insurers and other financial organizations, particularly banks;
- develop benchmarks within the industry as the first step toward the establishment of a risk-based capital framework for insurers;
- assist in the formulation of an insurance masterplan in keeping with the financial services sector's liberalization, and,
- develop a more comprehensive consumer education campaign for the general public.

Santos, who chaired the Asean insurance regulators meetings, said the group recognized the need to harmonize insurance laws and practices in the region.

"We have continued to make progress in complying with international best practices and standards in the insurance industry. For example, last year, most of our member-countries have strengthened their efforts to comply with most of the 17 core principles established by the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)," Santos said.

The IAIS principles include best practices on corporate governance, prudential rules, internal control, market conduct, monitoring, inspection and sanction and cross-border operations.

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Online trading firm expanding in Asian markets

BULLISH on the potential of the East Asian and Southeast Asian markets, an on-line stock trading company, GCI Financial Ltd., is building up its presence in the region to tap the potentially profitable middle class and entrepreneur sectors.

Its objective is to attract individuals to earn profits through over-the-Internet trading, providing armchair investors easy access to the world of foreign exchange and stock market trading.

GCI Financial has a strong global presence serving clientele on a 24/7 basis, facilitating billions of dollars monthly in online transactions in Europe, Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East.

The company is among the world's top ten online trading firms. It offers commission-free trading and low margin requirements.

GCI Financial is growing strong in Asia, where improved telecommunications systems, proliferation of high-quality Internet connections, and growing Internet usage are making online trading a boom activity.

Clients can access GCI's website (www.gci-trading.com) and make their transactions through a user-friendly GCI-developed interface that gives comprehensive advice on open positions, margin levels and profit-and-loss monitoring data. This interface is powered by a powerful proprietary software that processes transactions, queries, and collates information in real-time, keeping the company databank up-to-date and reflective of the situation and performance of stocks worldwide as they happen. It also provides real-time prices in all major currencies, market indices, individual shares and futures.

GOINGS-ON

PRSP's new board

THE PUBLIC Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP) voted into office a new board at the Club Filipino in Greenhills.

The election was backed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The new board will take over from the administration of holdover president Winston Marbella whose failure to call for an election prompted the SEC to intervene.

Elected to the new board were Jones Campos, Globe Telecom; Dante Velasco, Creative Point; Angel Doble, Philippine National Bank; Dulce Baybay, ABS-CBN Foundation; Joel Lacsamana, Manila Water Co.; Lourdes de Guzman, College Assurance Plan; Rocky Dimaculangan, Jollibee Foods; Rochelle Hilario, Asian Terminals; and Maloli Espinosa-Manalastas, ABS-CBN Broadcasting.

Kemwerke-Akzo deal

KEMWERKE Inc., a Filipino-owned manufacturer of alkyd and polyol resins, has entered into a supply agreement with Akzo Nobel Coatings (China) Co. Ltd.

Under the deal, Kemwerke will supply Akzo Nobel some 4,800 metric tons of coconut based alkyd and polyol resins worth $5.3 million.

Akzo Nobel Coatings (China) Co. Ltd. is a technology-based manufacturing company, whose major products are decorative coatings, industrial finishes, marine and protective coatings, and automotive refinish coatings.

The local firm is an ISO 9001:2000 registered company.

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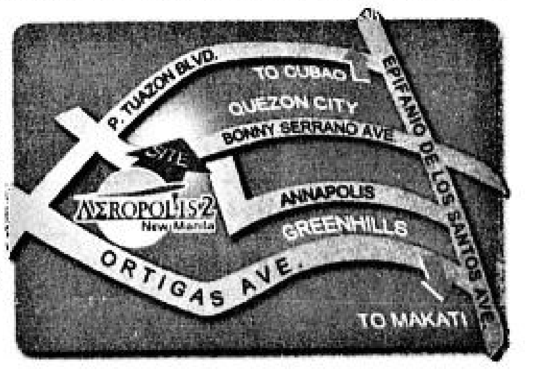

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The visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and are subject to change without prior notice.

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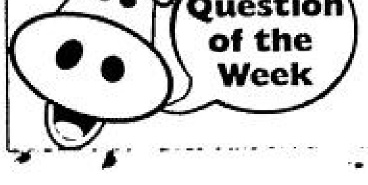


What is your favorite comics strip? Why?

Texters hus messages R printd in Tuesday's **INQBOX** *wil each receiv a Guyito stuffd toy! U*

Key in: inquirer 2bu name/city/message.
Text your answers to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart).
(Maximum of 160 characters)

Inquirer
menu

New regulations on Canadian immigration

CANADA has a long tradition of welcoming immigrants. Canada receives over 200,000 per year (with an increasing amount) of immigrants, and being the number one immigration destination for Filipinos who have been attracted to the high quality of life in Canada. More so, the earning capacity is ten times better than what many Filipinos here can expect. Thus, the proliferation of Canadian immigration consultancy agencies these days conducting business as hired representatives have increased. Hence, the prospective client must be ascertained that their agency of choice is duly authorized by the Government of Canada. Applicants who hire unauthorized representative would have their application forms returned by the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), under the new immigration regulations as of April 2004.

The first question a prospective applicant needs to ask any Canadian immigration consultancy agency is: "Are you a member of the Canadian Society of Consultants (CSIC)? Only a positive answer together, with their corresponding ID Number is your guarantee and assurance.

Asia Canada Resouces Link Inc (Acrelink) is one such immigration firm. They are the sole authorized representative of Karl Chebil, a Canadian citizen and immigration lawyer and consultant; a Quebec Barrister, who is a member of good standing of the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC) with ID number 183160-7.

Asia Canada Resources Link, Inc (Acrelink), a consultancy firm that guides and assists Filipinos in the application, processing of immigrant visa under these categories: skilled worker, investor, student, entrepreneur visa to Canada, is now accepting walk-ins and phone inquiries. Acrelink takes pride in offering the lowest consultancy fee in the industry. It also offers job search assistance. For inquiries, please call. 725-8131 or 725-6095. or email your resume at acrelink_mcf @pacific.net.ph for free assessment. Free orientation is conducted every Saturday at 2 p.m. at Suite 302 Jafer Place #19 Eisenhower Street, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila. Please bring your resume.

ENERGEL PARTICIPATES IN CITIBANK ACTIVITY

Energel Vitamins and Minerals loaded with Ginseng, a product of Metz Pharma participated in one of the activities of Citibank. Metz Pharma's participation in this project is in line with their support with Citibank's 'Lifestyle and Learning Series' of Gateway to Goodlife Campaign Year 7 which started last July and will end by December 2004. Shown in photo (from left) district sales managers of Metz Pharma Mike Lingad and Alma Agustin; AVP marketing (media, events and strategic alliances) of Citibank Gigi Rodriguez; one of the guests; and product manager of Metz Pharma - Teresa Cayas.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

P.O. Box 789, Manila, Philippines
6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Tel. 632-4407; Fax No. (632) 636-2567
Email: psantiago@adb.org or sisanga@adb.org

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

For Contract No. ADB/OAS-2004/059

1. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), a multilateral development finance institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines, invites interested parties to apply for pre-qualification in the bidding of ADB's Enhanced Security Access Control Project.

2. The Contractor shall build, install and supply the materials, tools, equipment, labor and supervision for the construction of the ADB Enhanced Security Access Control to Bank Facilities – ADB Visitor's Entry/Exit Screening Facilities & Lobbies Enhancement Project located at the ADB Headquarters Building, 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila in accordance with the plans, specifications, policies, standards and procedures established by ADB. The project consists of but not limited to the following: construction of new screening facilities for three access points namely (i) ADB Avenue entrance with fixed bollards; (ii) Guadix Gate entrance; and (iii) Bank Drive entrance with fixed bollards; enhancement of the main and west lobbies. The project will also cover provisions for Security System components namely (i) Heavy duty security booms at driveway entry/exit points; (ii) Automatic Electro-mechanical rectractable bollards at Bank Drive entry/exit point; (iii) Walk-through scanner and X-ray bag screening; and (iv) Cantilevered gates. The Contractor shall be required to use Security System components that are compatible with the standards and specifications currently in use within the ADB Headquarters. The Contractor will be further responsible for the following works: (a) relocation of trees and vegetation affected by the project; (b) repair and touch up of all areas affected during the execution of the Works; (c) clean-up; and (d) turnover of project.

3. This invitation is open to firms from ADB member countries who meet the minimum requirements specified in the pre-qualification documents. The minimum criteria for pre-qualification are detailed in the "Business Opportunities" page of the ADB website: www.adb.org.

4. Pre-qualification documents may be obtained from the Head, Contracts Administration, Institutional Services Division, Office of Administrative Services (OAS), Room 4221N at the above-mentioned address starting from 24 September 2004 during office hours (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

5. Applications must be delivered to Head, Contracts Administration, Institutional Services Division, Office of Administrative Services (OAS), Room 4221N. The deadline for submission of applications must be received not later than 3:00 p.m. of 1 October 2004. ADB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications.

6. The Invitations to Bid are expected to be issued in the 4th week of October 2004, and bidding documents shall only be issued to the Applicants who have been pre-qualified. ADB reserves the right to postpone issuance of bidding documents, without providing reasons therefor.

7. ADB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred of Applicants in connection with the preparation and submission of their Applications.

(Sgd.) CÉCILE L.H.F. GREGORY
CHAIRPERSON
INSTITUTIONAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(PDI–Sept. 24 & 25, 2004)

PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE
Air Logistics and Support Command
HEADQUARTERS 420th SUPPLY WING, PAF
Clark Air Base, Philippine Air force
(Air Force City)
Angeles City, Pampanga

NOTICE OF SALE TO PUBLIC BIDDING

The PAF Disposal Committee will receive sealed bids until 14 October 2004, 8:50 AM at Conference Room, 420th Supply Wing, Clark Air Base, Angeles City, Pampanga for the sale of the following unserviceable properties on **"As is where is"** basis.

Lot Number/Description	Location	Min Bid Price
5-257-009 – One (1) lot of 10,532 line items of aircraft parts	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 901,125.00
5-257-010 – One (1) lot of 29,110 line items of aircraft parts	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 1,012,500.00
5-257-011 – One (1) lot of 22,245 line items of aircraft parts	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 1,123,200.00
6-222-03 – Consisting of One (1) NOMAD a/c carcass tail#RP 15	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 36,000.00
6-106-037 – Consisting of Two (2) F-5 a/c w/ tail #323 & 505	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 247,500.00

NOTICE OF SALE TO PUBLIC NEGOTIATION

Lot Number/Description	Location	Min Bid Price
5-283-022 – Consisting of Ten (10) T-28 engines with canister	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 405,000.00
5-283-023 – Consisting of Eight (8) T-28 engines without canister	Disposal Yard, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca, Pampanga	P 388,000.00

REMINDERS TO BIDDERS:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding.
2. To submit bid in PAF official bid form.
3. Earnest money is required in the form of cash or manager's check equivalent to 10% of the minimum bid price
4. To be on time. No bid will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commence.
5. Pre bid conference and issuance of Bid Forms P200.00 will be on **7 October 2004, 9:00 AM at Conference Room, 420th Supply Wing, Clark Air Base, Angeles City, Pampanga.**
6. Inspection schedule will be from **30 September 2004 to 01 October 2004, at 0800H to 1600H Thursday and Friday.**
7. Opening of bids will be on **14 October 2004, 9:00 AM at Conference Room, 420th Supply Wing, Clark Air Base, Angeles City, Pampanga.**

PAF DISPOSAL COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS TO WAIVE ANY DEFECTS FOUND THEREIN AND TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE PAF.

For details and schedule inspection, call 1LT MARIBELLE A BELILA PAF at (045) 599-2015 loc 6524 or cell nr 09175035079.

(Sgd.) GILBERT S LLANTO
Colonel PAF (GSC)
Deputy Wing Commander, 420th SW
Chairman, PAF Disposal Committee

(PDI–Sept. 23, 24 & 25, 2004)

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Constitution Hills, Diliman, Quezon City

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Civil Service Commission (CSC) needs the services of a licensed and qualified Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) duly registered with the Government Electronic Procurement System (G-EPS) and with CSC. The winning bidder shall provide basic information on the company's stability, affiliated hospital and institutions, accredited health professionals and valued clients. Strengths and key competencies of the company may be highlighted.

Name and Description of the Project	Approved Budget For the Contract (ABC)	Source of Funds
AVAILING OF SERVICES OF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION	P5,823,747.94 per year over the next 5 years	Centennial Health Care Fund

2. Application for Eligibility shall be evaluated using "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only Eligible Bidders shall be allowed to bid. All bids equal to or lower than the ABC shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the contractor's offer to the Project under bidding subject to Post-qualification before an award is made. Bid prices submitted higher than the ABC shall be rejected and returned outright.
3. Eligibility documents will be available for issuance on **October 4 to 18, 2004** at the Bids and Awards Committee(BAC) Secretariat, Basement, CSC Building, Diliman, Quezon City, upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) with an approved Order of Payment to the CSC collecting Officer found at the Mamamayan Muna in Action Center , Ground floor, CSC Building.
4. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Forms, documents and statements shall be on or before **October 19, 2004**; 5 P.M. and shall be submitted at the BAC Secretariat, c/o Ms. Moonyeen T. Alegro, General Services Division, Basement, CSC, Diliman, Quezon City. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
5. To facilitate eligibility check/screening of prospective bidders, Suppliers or contractors are requested to register with the BAC Secretariat by submitting the basic requirements, enumerated under Sec. 23.6 - 23.10 of IRR-A, RA 9184, duly notarized under oath that each of the said documents submitted is an authentic and original copy, or a true and faithful reproduction or copy of the original, complete, and that all statements and information provided therein are true and correct. The same should be maintained current and updated at least once a year. A Certificate of Registration will be issued to contractors/suppliers upon approval.
6. Schedule of Bidding Activities:

ACTIVITY	DATE/TIME	VENUE
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	October 4 to 18, 2004	BAC Secretariat, GSD Basement, CSC Bldg.
2. Pre-Bid conference	October 8, 2004; 3 PM	CSC Function Room
3. Opening of Eligibility Requirements and Bids	October 20, 2004; 3 PM	CSC Function Room

7. CSC reserves the right to reject any application for eligibility, or all bids without offering any reasons, waive and required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
8. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

Asst. Commissioner ELMER R. BARTOLATA
Chairman Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Sept. 18 & 25, 2004)

Millenium Nursing Review Specialists

MILLENIUM Nursing Review Specialists Co is a subsidiary of R.A. Gapuz Review Center Co which was established in 1994.

The primary objective of the Gapuz Review Center Co, is to provide full and adequate assistance to nursing reviewees through comprehensive and effective review programs designed not only to enhance their chances of passing but to top the board exams as well. Since its establishment, Gapuz had produced and still producing board topnotchers in Nursing Licensure Examination, thus maintaining its total commitment to academic excellence. This is the Gapuz advantage. Millenium Nursing Review Specialists Co is essentially the same Gapuz Review Center brought to more nurses and nursing students as well since there will be several branches to be established in key cities around the country. The lectures are designed by Ray Gapuz himself, the programs are his programs as well with the lecturers selected and trained by Gapuz also.

Millenium Nursing Review Specialists Co - Lipa Branch (catering to the Calabarzon area) offers review classes for the local nursing licensure examination, CGFNS, NCLEX, TOEFL, TSE and IELTS. Nurses and nursing graduates are invited to be part of the review classes by visiting their office at Women's Clinic, Yakal St. Villa Lourdes Subdivision Lipa City or call (043) 981-0260, (043) 757-8655 or 0917-667-0802 and look for Mylene Hermosa. You can e-mail them at jedmaron@msn.com.

CHOCOLATE LOVER JOINS EXPO

Chocolate Lover, considered by many as the leading authority on chocolates and confectioneries, joins the roster of major sponsors in the forthcoming '8th Culinary, Kitchen and Food Expo', slated at the Glorietta Activity Center along Ayala Avenue in Makati City from Oct. 1 to 4. Annie Lim, GM and president of Chocolate Lover (left) poses with Anne Licup, VP of Philfair Inc, the event organizer, after a simple signing rite.

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) is offering for public bidding, on an "as-is, where-is" basis, the following movable assets of Panay Railways, Inc. (PRI) in various locations in Panay Island, as follows:

Lot	Description	Indicative Price
1	a) Railroad bridges b) Angular bars and wooden ties c) Terminal buildings/stations	P11,652,000.00
2.	One (1) railroad bridge located at Km. 53+06, Passi City, known as "Passi Bridge"	1,671,000.00

Sealed bids will be received on October 20, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. and immediately thereafter, the bids shall be opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties are advised to deal directly with the PMO Marketing Department. Authenticated bidding documents, together with the Asset Specific Catalogue, may be secured from PMO for a nominal fee of P1,500.00.

In the event that the public bidding becomes a failure, PMO reserves the right to consider proposals submitted for the above assets.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Matthew R. de Guzman at telephone numbers 817-8762 or 818-4733.

(PDI-Sept. 25, 26 & 27, 2004)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. 2004-064

PD Ref No.: PB040705-RM0091 (PB2) / PR Nos.: SCD-04-007619

The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, BIDS AND AWARD COMMITTEE (TRANSCO – BAC) – HEAD OFFICE**, wishes to invite interested parties who are qualified for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

Quantity	Item Description	PR No.	Approved Budget
50 Pieces	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF INTELLIGENT ELECTRONIC DEVICES / METERS	SCD-04-007619	Php2,700,000.00

1. The Bidding Documents will be available for issuance starting **September 25, 2004 to October 27, 2004** from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the BAC Secretariat Office, National Transmission Corporation, Materials Management Division (MMD), Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)** per set.
2. Deadline for submission, receipt and opening of bids shall be on or before **2 P.M. of October 28, 2004** the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. If the date is a non-working day or declared non-working day, the deadline for submission shall be rescheduled on a later date that will be announced through a bid bulletin. Late submission and/or incomplete bid documents shall not be accepted.
3. Pre-bid conference will be held on **October 11, 2004 at 2:00 P.M.** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.
4. All particulars relative to the eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A of Republic Act 9184.
5. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
6. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO G. LABAYANI
Chairman, Bids and Award Committee

(PDI – Sept. 25 & Oct. 1, 2004)

ProductFILES

The real white for you

EPIDERM-A, one of the "firsts" in the whitening category, re-energized its Epiderm-A Whitening Lotion and Soap with new active 'LumiWhite,' a blend of nine whitening active ingredients plus Vitamin C and E to help make skin healthier, smoother and lighter naturally, in just two weeks. The revolutionary new active LumiWhite initiates the production of yellow melanin found in the skin while filtering harmful UV rays that trigger the production of dark melanin. Hence, only the lighter colored melanin is produced to make the skin color appear lighter. Epiderm-A also introduced the first facial wash with papaya enzyme that lightens skin color and prevent pimples and dryness. Filipinas longing for smoother and whiter face should find the Epiderm-A Whitening Facial Cream a perfect choice with its LumiWhite, Licorice and Vitamin E. It is Silicon-enhanced thus, provides a good base for make-up. Extensively researched and tested, the latest Epiderm-A product line is specifically designed and produced to deliver the results that will make every Filipina's dream a reality. With Epiderm-A, they can enjoy smoother, healthier and lighter skin.

Indian firm completes ₱1-B payment for NSC

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

GLOBAL Steelworks International Inc. said there should be no doubt over whether the deal with creditors for the acquisition of National Steel Corp.'s plant assets, the country's largest steel firm, was still on.

Sushant Das, president at Global Steelworks (the local subsidiary of India's Global Infrastructure Holdings Ltd. that operates NSC), said the group had completed a P1-billion downpayment last Thursday to keep the purchase agreement valid.

Das said that since February, Global Steelworks had invested roughly $25 million for the ongoing rehabilitation of NSC.

By the end of this month, Global Steelworks expects to export 6,000 tons of cold rolled coils of steel and this would bring in additional export earnings to the country.

This is going to be the first time the Philippines will be exporting steel to China.

Global Steelworks also plans to expand NSC's plant capacity to 2 million tons next year from the present 1.2 million tons.

Global Steelworks signed last Sept. 10 an asset purchase agreement with the steel firm's creditors to cover the transfer of NSC's plant assets. The assets were purchased for P13.25 billion.

After the P1-billion downpayment made last Thursday, the remaining P12.25 will be paid out over the next eight years.

The assets of NSC were sold early this year to Global, one of the world's biggest steel companies.

NSC was forced to close its plant in 1999 after failing to pay debts totaling P16 billion. Asia's oldest steel company succumbed to pressures from the influx of cheap imports from Russia and South Africa.

The shutdown of the plant, which used to produce 1.5 million metric tons of steel, left some 4,000 workers jobless.

The rehabilitation of NSC would provide 500 jobs and generate P25 billion in annual revenue.

Stocks at 4-½-yr high

From page B1

overnight rates unchanged enticed investors to continue with their buying spree," said First Grade Holdings managing director Astro del Castillo.

The central bank has not touched its benchmark rates since a cut of 25 basis points in July 2003 that matched a similar move by the US Federal Reserve.

The bank's overnight borrowing rate is currently at 6.75 percent and its lending rate is 9.0 percent.

It announced its decision to hold rates steady on Thursday, after the market had closed. It said recent rises in inflation were likely to taper off by the middle of next year as the shock of higher oil prices fades.

Value turnover rose to P1.1 billion from Thursday's P621.3 million.

"Technically, the picture is still bullish. I won't be surprised if the 1,800 level would be breached next week after a technical correction since the market is up for five days now," Del Castillo said.

Bank of the Philippine Islands, the country's second largest lender, rose 1.11 percent or 50 centavos to P45.50.

Metro Pacific Corp., the Philippine flagship of Hong Kong's First Pacific Co. Ltd., jumped 15.69 percent on reports that Metro Pacific will lead the rehabilitation and construction of a connecting road to a highway in the main island of Luzon.

SM Prime Holdings Inc., the country's largest mall developer with 18 shopping centers nationwide, climbed 1.59 percent or 10 centavos to P6.40. *Reuters*

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of September 24, 2004)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	37,900
Bank of the Phil. Islands	45	45.5	44.5	45.5	8,781,100
China Banking Corp.	530	530	530	530	1,100
Citystate Savings Bank	16.25	16.25	16.25	16.25	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	42	42.5	42	42.5	37,800
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.44	990,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	28	28.5	27.5	28	224,900
Phil. Savings Bank	28	28	28	28	10,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	2,000
Security Bank Corp.	21	21.25	21	21.25	32,300
Union Bank of the Phil.	24	24	24	24	9,500
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	100,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1600	1610	1600	1610	6,170
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	20.75	21	20.75	21	3,000
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.8	0.85	0.8	0.85	71,160,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1060	1090	1060	1090	28,960
Ipeople Inc.	1.62	1.74	1.62	1.74	311,000
Island Info And Tech Inc.	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	5,000,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	9,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.75	2.8	2.75	2.8	6,550,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.27	300,000
Transpacific Broadcast	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	10,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1380	1420	1380	1390	128,410
Ivantage Corp.	0.65	0.68	0.65	0.68	5,020,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	89,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	15.5	15.75	15.5	15.75	82,300
Manila Electric Co. B	23.5	24.25	23.5	24.25	955,100
Petron Corp.	2.75	2.85	2.75	2.85	9,024,000
Salcon Power Corp.	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	50,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	289,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	60,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	4.8	4.85	4.8	4.8	175,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	10,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	580,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	7,000
Union Cement Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.44	2.44	4,875,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.9	2.95	99,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.05	3,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	29	29	29	29	4,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	26.5	26.5	26	26	26,400
Pancake House Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	4,000
RFM Corp.	0.72	0.76	0.72	0.76	260,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	220,000
San Miguel Corp. A	58	58	57.5	57.5	13,300
San Miguel Corp. B	70.5	71	70.5	71	74,600
Universal Robina Corp.	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	6,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.29	0.3	0.29	0.29	1,700,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	15,000,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	5,000,000
Ayala Corp.	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.5	1,207,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.3	0.34	0.3	0.34	80,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.35	3.4	3.35	3.4	401,000
Ajo Net Holdings Inc.	0.031	0.033	0.031	0.032	500,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.32	1.32	1.3	1.3	214,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	8,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.64	1.66	1.64	1.66	88,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	14.5	14.5	14.25	14.25	10,200
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.1	0.115	0.1	0.115	1,300,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.57	0.58	0.56	0.58	17,150,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.27	5,390,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	500,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	2.12	2.18	2.12	2.16	1,069,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.036	0.037	0.036	0.036	3,000,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.97	1	0.96	1	780,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	27	27.5	27	27.5	893,600
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	150,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.0725	0.075	0.0725	0.0725	5,600,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.65	0.75	0.65	0.75	170,000
Ionics Inc.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	30,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.86	1.88	1.86	1.86	378,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.58	1.58	1.54	1.54	50,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.24	1.3	1.24	1.3	12,849,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	400,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.51	0.59	0.51	0.59	123,570,000
Prima Media Holdings Inc.	1.06	1.08	1.06	1.08	150,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	100,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	40,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	400,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.205	0.21	0.205	0.21	7,640,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	1,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	380,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.07	0.07	0.065	0.065	3,800,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.68	0.71	0.68	0.71	7,330,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.58	0.59	0.58	0.58	560,000
Manila Jockey Club	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	22,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.34	1,290,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25	733,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series O	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	11	11	11	11	200
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,700
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	5,500
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	10,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	4,159,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	160,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.49	0.5	0.49	0.5	200,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.43	0.44	0.41	0.44	16,390,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.15	0.15	0.145	0.145	630,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.36	20,760,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.06	1.12	1.04	1.1	35,873,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	2.24	2.24	2.24	2.24	2,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.225	0.235	0.225	0.235	2,540,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.43	0.45	0.43	0.45	1,050,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2	2	2	2	50,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.4	10,165,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	70,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc B	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	40,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	102,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	3	3	3	3	10,000
Benguet Corp. A	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	71,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.21	0.21	0.205	0.21	630,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	600,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.014	0.015	0.014	0.015	70,100,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	24,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.006	0.0065	0.006	0.0065	2,128,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.37	0.39	0.37	0.39	160,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.135	0.135	0.13	0.13	300,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	20,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	10,000,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.012	4,300,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	10,000

DISCLOSURES

REYNALDO David resigned as director of **Export and Industry Bank**.

* * *

DELFIN Dator resigned as vice president for sales of **Alaska Milk Corp.**

* * *

REPUBLIC Cement Corp. will hold its special stockholders' meeting on Nov. 3, 9 a.m. at the Garcia Villa/Balagtas, Manila Peninsula Hotel, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of Oct. 8 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

VIVANT Corp. will incorporate two new companies that it will wholly own, Vivant Importation and Trading Inc. and Vivant Energy Corp.

* * *

PRIME Gaming Philippines Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Oct. 28, 11 a.m. at the Acacia Function Room of Manila Mandarin Oriental, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of Sept. 28 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

* * *

BAGUIO Gold Holdings Corp. moved its annual stockholders' meeting on Nov. 16, 2:30 p.m. at the Century Park Hotel, Manila. Stockholders of record as of Oct. 16 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

CURRENCIES

September 24, 2004 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.815062	1.000000	56.3670
Japan	Yen	0.007360	0.009030	0.5090
United Kingdom	Pound	1.463607	1.795700	101.2182
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.104514	0.128228	7.2278
Switzerland	Franc	0.646567	0.793273	44.7144
Canada	Dollar	0.637166	0.781739	44.0643
Singapore	Dollar	0.480919	0.590040	33.2588
Australia	Dollar	0.582854	0.715103	40.3082
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.162026	2.652590	149.5185
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.217350	0.266667	15.0312
Brunei	Dollar	0.479505	0.588305	33.1610
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000090	0.000110	0.0062
Thailand	Baht	0.019711	0.024184	1.3632
UAE	Dirham	0.221919	0.272272	15.3472
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.226900	69.1567
Argentina	Peso	0.272824	0.334728	18.8676
Brazil	Real	0.284291	0.348797	19.6606
Denmark	Kroner	0.134443	0.164948	9.2976
India	Rupee	0.017792	0.021829	1.2304
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.214496	0.263165	14.8338
Mexico	New Peso	0.071572	0.087812	4.9497
New Zealand	Dollar	0.544464	0.668003	37.6533
Norway	Kroner	0.120038	0.147275	8.3014
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013773	0.016898	0.9525
South Africa	Rand	0.127234	0.156104	8.7991
Korea	Won	0.000710	0.000871	0.0491
Sweden	Kroner	0.110810	0.135953	7.6633
Syria	Pound	0.022559	0.027678	1.5601
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024114	0.029586	1.6677
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000425	0.000522	0.0294

SMC to source raw materials locally

SAN MIGUEL Corp. (SMC), the country's biggest food and beverage firm, is optimistic it will help government generate thousands of jobs in the countryside.

SMC said it was making this possible by sourcing its raw materials locally for its requirements in feeds, liquor and soft drinks. Cassava, corn, soybeans and sorghum are among the crops used heavily by SMC in its food and beverage operations.

Dubbed as a sourcing program introduced in 2002, SMC said the program aims to provide farmers an assured long-term market for their produce. Its three components are training and technology transfer, financing and the provision of a steady, assured market marked by stable pricing.

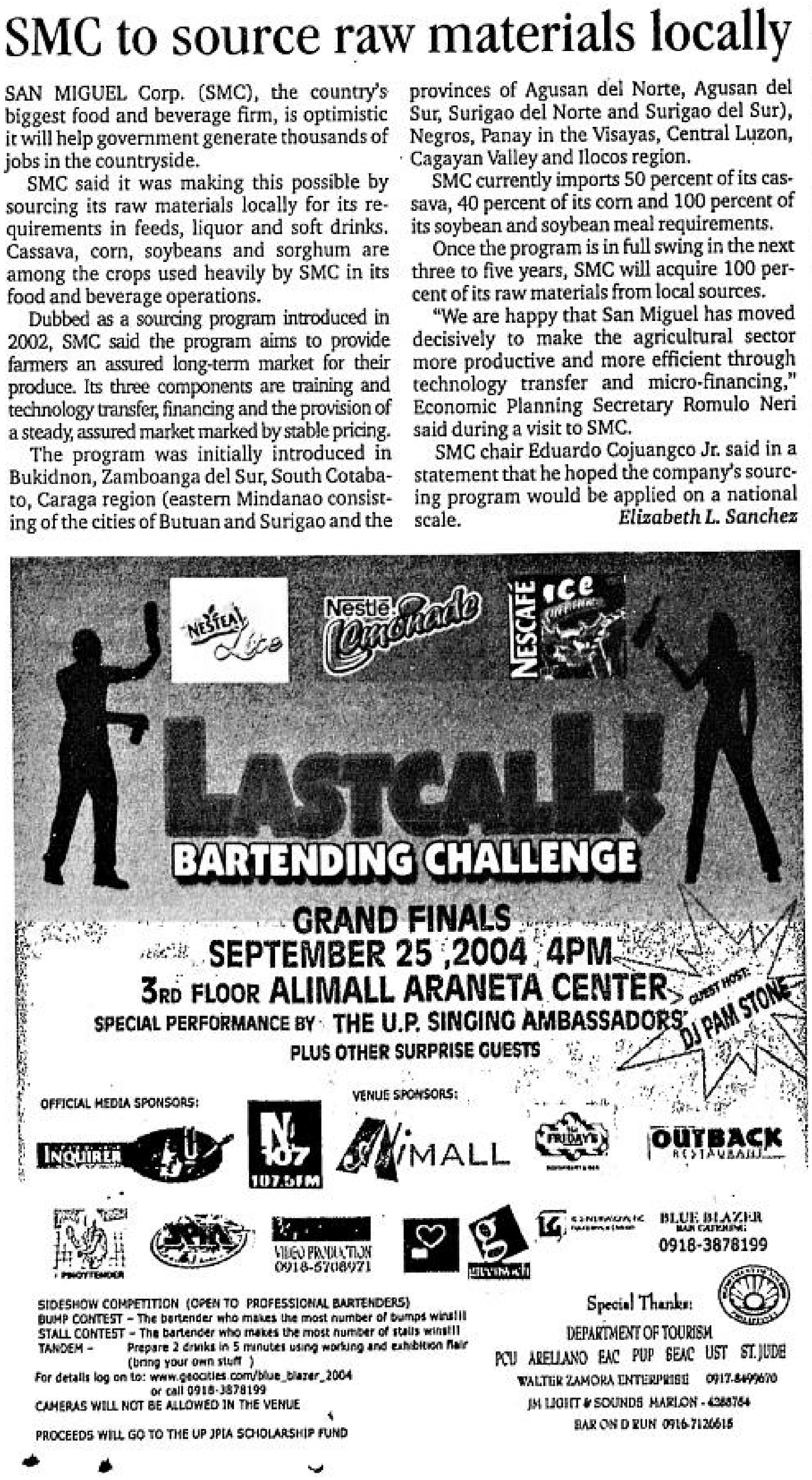
The program was initially introduced in Bukidnon, Zamboanga del Sur, South Cotabato, Caraga region (eastern Mindanao consisting of the cities of Butuan and Surigao and the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur), Negros, Panay in the Visayas, Central Luzon, Cagayan Valley and Ilocos region.

SMC currently imports 50 percent of its cassava, 40 percent of its corn and 100 percent of its soybean and soybean meal requirements.

Once the program is in full swing in the next three to five years, SMC will acquire 100 percent of its raw materials from local sources.

"We are happy that San Miguel has moved decisively to make the agricultural sector more productive and more efficient through technology transfer and micro-financing," Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said during a visit to SMC.

SMC chair Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. said in a statement that he hoped the company's sourcing program would be applied on a national scale. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*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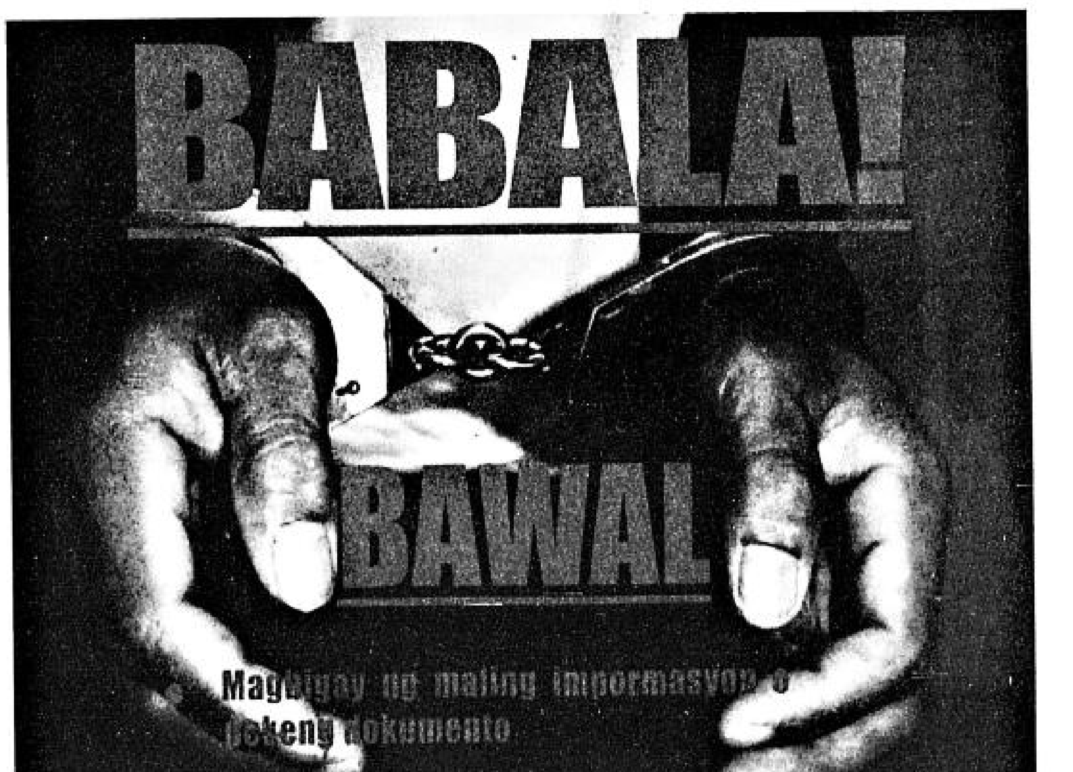
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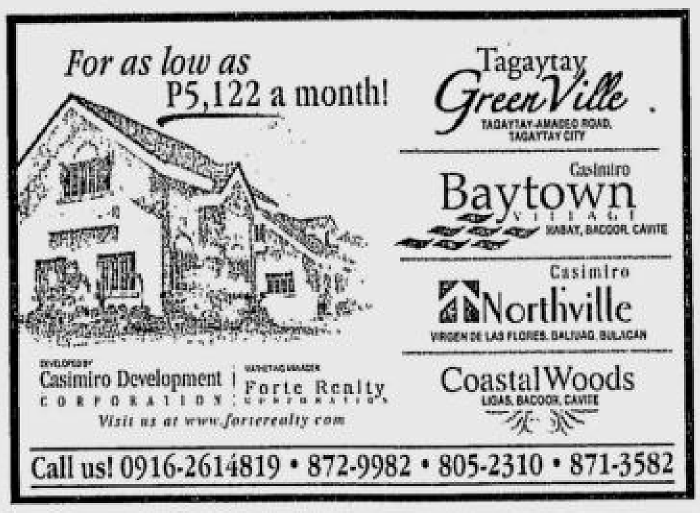

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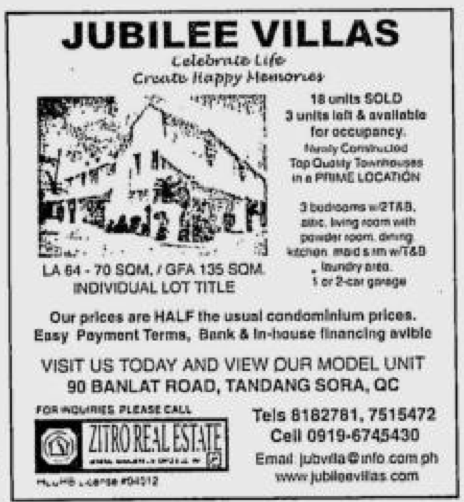

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77 Scout Chuatoco Nr. Quezon Ave & Pantranco, Q.C.
Call 0917-5271188 • 715-3544

HOUSE & LOT

RIZAL

Vill. East Cainta nr. Makro 3brm 3tb Maids Grge FA136m² LA75m² Marble RFO P1.28M P480T Down P14T/mo. 931-1313 0919-4902165 439-0775 0917-9239217

OTHER AREAS

A PRIME SUBD 2 bdrms 1T&B LA [illegible]

CONDO/TWNHSE

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HOUSE & LOT

BULACAN

STA. MARIA 225T 9372688

LAGUNA

Ayala Sta. Rosa San Jose Village Phase6 P1-2M Margie 3619953 ; 4478831

BINAN 400T CP (0927)6438231

LAGUNA BEL-AIR LA 132m² 3bdrms 2T&B FA84m² P1.85M Vic 8903461 loc 27/25

METROVILLE SUBD LA 122m² 2bdrms 1T&B FA61.28m² P1.2M Vic 8903461 loc 27

MILAN CAMELLA HOMES 3Stry FA2 10m² P1.9M VIC 8903461 LOC 27/25

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.1M C5 Nr The Fort
10T/mo. or 4Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8313226

1.2M C5 MKT/D'Fort
10T/MA-UP or Rent to Own 10%DP Move-in or No DP/0% INT 0920-2621205/514-0055/472-7193

P1.1M Condo nr Mkti
9T/mo. or 10%DP RFO also P1.6M Ortigas Ave. 8736426 / 09185251365

MANILA

Singalong Manila Bnew/Twnhse /3stry/3br/3tbmaid's rm1-2grge P3.990M up 8903461 loc. 34

Twnhses nr DLSU - Taft Ave LA42 - 48Sm 1Car P2.5M UP 562-3531 0917- 5272105

MANDALUYONG

RFO Bnew,2.3M Up. Cash / TE Rn W/ Disc., 1-3BR, 09182189817

[illegible]

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

PARANAQUE

3BR 3TB 1CAR GRGE 1MDS ROOM w/club house P3.5M call Charo 822-5479-80

PASIG

1.3M 3Yrs No Int 40sq.m Nr Mkti & Ort 0917-9749397

1.6M ORTIGAS AVE.. Resort-Type, 1st Class 2-4BR, P12T mo./No DP/0% Bess • 0917-5234223

710T nr Ortigas 20% dp 1YTP 292-6137 • 0917-8160250

LONG TERM ZERO INTEREST 123BR NR ULTRA T672-1463

QUEZON CITY

CUBAO P1.5M 5YRS TO PAY No Interest Move-In 9126976

FAIRVIEW 1.95M LA 45 SQM FA 108 SQM 3STRY 3BR 2T&B GARAGE SEMI-FURN NR FEU SECURED TEL # 938-2949

SACRIFICE SALE! Katipunan near Ateneo/Meriam LA67 FA104 2.8M 3BR 500T Lipat Na! 18T/mo CL 09185494882

STUDENT CONDO P650T UP walk to ATENEO/MIRIAM (0920) RSGHOME • 531-1384

TEACHER'S VILL QC Brand New Twnhouse 913-2701 / 913-2403

VILLA FELICIDAD Cubao Araneta Center 5-BR 3T&B 1CAR GARAGE TEL 439 -1995 / 439 - 6921 0920-902-0858;0921-543-9449

BAGUIO

WRIGHT PARK PLACE BAGUIO 163m² 3BR Call Cecile 872-5204 to 05

WRIGHT PARK PLACE BAGUIO 163m² 3BR Call Cecile 872-5204 to 05

VARIOUS AREAS

PDCP UNIT OFC 3.9M neg. 85.43sqm w/pkg Leviste St Salcedo NEW CONDO in VALENCIA HILLS STUDIO, 2BR, 3BR, w/pkg 3M up! and BAY GARDENS Roxas Blvd 2BR, 3BR, w/pkg 6M up 20%DP TO MOVE-IN. CALL ROSE T-750-8291/0927-7996662

VARIED AREAS

PACIFIC PLAZA TOWERS Best location in bldg 22.5M DIRECT BUYER ONLY 3731188 office hour only 09178385151 Henry

LOT

KALOOCAN

Rainbow Village 5 LA 216m² P3,473/m² Vic 8903461 loc 25

LAS PINAS

METROCOR 254sqm @P4500 near SM 800-4771

MANDALUYONG

Edsa 400m² Hi Density Highly Comm'l Pls. Call 645-3731

PARANAQUE

4th ESTATE 240m² 7156833

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

QUEZON CITY

Ayala Hillside Estates
Ms. Kallos 416-1661 • 952-7106 0917-3708160 • 0916-5461974

OTHER AREAS

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240m² P3,125/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

OTHER PROVINCIAL

PAVIA ILOILO 839m² P1500/m² 0921-4157232

BAGUIO

Pinewood Baguio 300sq.m 4.5T 952-4254 • 936-0282

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 [illegible]

Republic of the Philippines
Mountain Province State Polytechnic College
2616 Bontoc, Mountain Province

ANNOUNCEMENT

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE would like to announce the vacancy for the College President. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Master's degree holder, preferably doctorate degree holder, related to the mandate of the College
- Must have at least 5 years of administrative experience in the academe
- Must be a natural born Filipino citizen
- Not more than 60 years old; and
- Should not have been convicted of criminal and administrative offenses

Applicants must submit the following documentary requirements in 6 copies on or before October 8, 2004 and addressed to:

The Search Committee for Presidency
c/o Dr. Rexton F. Chakas
College/Board Secretary V
Mt. Province State Polytechnic College
2616 Bontoc, Mt. Province

- Biodata or curriculum vitaé and duly authenticated Official Transcript of Records
- Vision, mission and plans, printed in not more than 5 pages, double spaced on standard bond paper
- Clearances from NBI, Sandigan and Court of First Instance
- Medical or Health Certificate
- Duly sworn assets and liabilities
- Latest Income Tax Return
- Certification of good moral character from at least 3 highly respected members of the community

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

3.6 Hec. Lot Behind GreenWoods Subd. At Paliparan Dasma Cvite Ideal Loc. For Res. Comcl Or Indus. 45mins. From Alabang Call 0917-9033886 / 0917-8120748

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA128m2 P2,903/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m2 P2,650/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAGUNA

365SQM BRENTVILLE SUBD home of International Sch Binan Call 09185054471 or 4930415 JEPOY

Coml Binan Along Nat. Hway 2238m² bude PT&T Rush P8,500/m² 8311158

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m2 LA240m2 Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

LIPA SAN BENITO 1.6HA, 2.5HA, 3.8HA 09166820877 / 09193173881

PALAWAN FARM
51Ha Nr Tabon Cave VNice w / Bungalow & Farm House / Road / Elec y / Big Cave / H2O Falls / River / Asstd Fruits Comes w / Beach Lot See video 2 Appreciate Amount : P3M Net Call : Raquel 0917-8278237

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

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LA7439m² FA3000m² FULLY FENCED W/H2OTANK C6 ACCESS 0917-6251467 632-0129, 656-0360, 687-7325

RESORT

BATANGAS w/ Improvement FLOWING WATER 1HA 09166820877 / 09193173881

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

MAKATI

Comm'l Space For Rent Citysquare. Mkti 26M-10T 09178134468

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

ONE BURGUNDY PLAZA KATIPUNAN Q.C. FRNT ATENEO FA103, 75, 50 m² 9289541 / 7313055

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

PASAY

ZAMORA PASAY 8314114

HOUSE

LAS PINAS

3BR P12/Mo 0921-4157232

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2-Sty 4BR P10T/mo 620-4721

PARANAQUE

27A GERMANY BETTER LIVING SUBD 3BR 3CR W/GRGE TEL 7763883 CEL 09175339439

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A/C 2BR 20T 4121825

QUEZON CITY

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An export company located in McArthur Hiway, Malolos, Bulacan is presently seeking a dynamic motivated bookkeeper to perform general accounting duties. Must be computer literate, have college degree in accounting and minimum of 2 years experience in bookkeeping. Interested parties may call (044) 7943622. Look for Bethy or email resumé to:
northwingexport@yahoo.com

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MANILA

2 Bedrooms 2551 Leiva St. Sta Ana Cherrie 563-4029

840 P.Noval NR UST Tel 7313035 7361925 9289541

PASIG

2BR 633-1040 Capitol Teta

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M. ADRIATICO CORP P.FAURA STS 25m² & 30m² OFF SPACE CALL OFF HRS 5232847 / 5237870/5233

MALATE MLA 526-8048

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

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OTHER REAL ESTATE

REALTORS/SEMINAR

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'03 Matrix A/T 1.6 Gas Showroom Cond. 09274907797

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97 ESTEEM CD/ALARM 213T 6823741 / 09193285636

TOYOTA

TOYOTA RAV4 1997, MATIC, 72T mileage, 1st own, 09178134468

VAN/PICK-UP

'98 L300 Van 2-Tone M/T 1.8 Gas P280T Neg 09274907797

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

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2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/out taking car 6567685

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PUBLIC AUCTION

ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE PROPERTIES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2004 • TUESDAY • 2:00 p.m.
TOP PLAZA HOTEL
• Function Rooms 1 & 2•
Echavez St.,Quezon Ave., Dipolog City

DIPOLOG CITY

LOT 1 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **903 sqm.**
Lot 1031-I-9-C Bo.Turno
Minimum Bid Price: **77,000.00**

LOT 2 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **200 sqm.**
Lot 17 Blk. 2 Bo. Turno
Minimum Bid Price: **68,000.00**

LOT 3 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **2,474 sqm.**
Lot 2645-B Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **93,000.00**

LOT 4 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **4,661 sqm.**
Lot 2647-A, Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **258,000.00**

LOT 5 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **22,672 sqm.**
Lot 2727 Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **1,786,000.00**

LOT 6 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **250 sqm.**
Floor Area: **84 sqm.**
Lot 1-C, Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **453,000.00**

LOT 7 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,133 sqm.**
Lot 2856-A Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **482,000.00**

LOT 8 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,212 sqm.**
Lot 2720-E Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **122,000.00**

LOT 9 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,212 sqm.**
Lot 2720-F Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **122,000.00**

LOT 10 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **6,777 sqm.**
Lot 2728-B Bo. Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **407,000.00**

LOT 11 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **3,687 sqm.**
Lot 2850-B Minaog
Minimum Bid Price: **1,301,000.00**

LOT 12 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **281 sqm.**
Lot 189, Cad 85 Padre Gomez St., Barra
Minimum Bid Price: **478,000.00**

LOT 13 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **184 sqm.**
Floor Area: **67 sqm.**
Lot 155-C Padre Gomez St., Biasong
Minimum Bid Price: **725,000.00**

LOT 14 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **64.75 sqm.**
Floor Area: **102 sqm.**
Lot 663-B-2 Central Brgy.
Minimum Bid Price: **579,000.00**

LOT 15 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **91 sqm.**
Floor Area: **108 sqm.**
Lot 498-A-4-C Tabiliran St., Estaka
Minimum Bid Price: **697,000.00**

LOT 16 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **398 sqm.**
Lot 1032-J-12-B & Lot 1032-J-12-C Miputak
Minimum Bid Price: **339,000.00**

LOT 17 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **959 sqm.**
Lot 745-K-7 Back Of Capitol Bldg. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **653,000.00**

LOT 18 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **64 sqm.**
Lot 615-D Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **608,000.00**

LOT 19 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **64 sqm.**
Lot 615-B Poblacion, Dipolog City
Minimum Bid Price: **608,000.00**

LOT 20 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **506 sqm.**
Lot 2552-E-1 Bo. Of Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **433,000.00**

LOT 21 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **500 sqm.**
Lot 4-L Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **213,000.00**

LOT 22 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **1,582 sqm.**
Floor Area: **392 sqm.**
Lot 2613-H-10 Bo. Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **2,762,000.00**

LOT 23 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,417 sqm.**
Lot 4-A Bo. Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **1,205,000.00**

LOT 24 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,018 sqm.**
Lot 2399 Bucana, Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **77,000.00**

LOT 25 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,989 sqm.**
Lot 2389-B-5 Bo. of Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **597,000.00**

LOT 26 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,237 sqm.**
Lot 2496-C Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **263,000.00**

LOT 27 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **1,304 sqm.**
Floor Area: **86 sqm.**
Lot 2496-A Bo. Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **502,000.00**

LOT 28 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,412 sqm.**
Lot 2496-I-3 Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **301,000.00**

LOT 29 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **4,458 sqm.**
Lot 8 Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **335,000.00**

LOT 30 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **500 sqm.**
Lot 6-E Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **255,000.00**

LOT 31 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,211.12 sqm.**
Lot 2613-I-2 Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **364,000.00**

LOT 32 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **3,141 sqm.**
Lot 2483-H Bo. Sicayab
Minimum Bid Price: **943,000.00**

LOT 33 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **932 sqm.**
Lot 1310-E Sta. Filomena
Minimum Bid Price: **466,000.00**

LOT 34 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **656 sqm.**
Lot 1043-C-2 Governor'S Vill., Sta. Isabel
Minimum Bid Price: **123,000.00**

LOT 35 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **154 sqm.**
Floor Area: **75 sqm.**
Lot 606-B-2 Int. Lot, Magsaysay St.
Minimum Bid Price: **471,000.00**

DAPITAN CITY

LOT 36 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **1,618 sqm.**
Lot 501-B Lawaan, Dawo
Minimum Bid Price: **911,000.00**

LOT 37 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **775 sqm.**
Floor Area: **149 sqm.**
Msi-097201-000011 Brgy. Linabo
Minimum Bid Price: **890,000.00**

LOT 38 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **400 sqm.**
Lot 115-C Rizal Ave
Minimum Bid Price: **494,000.00**

GUTALAC

LOT 39 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **427 sqm.**
Floor Area: **190 sqm.**
Lot 1716-B Brgy. Salvador
Minimum Bid Price: **1,698,000.00**

LOT 40 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **26,524 sqm.**
Lot 540-B Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **697,000.00**

LOT 41 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **659 sqm.**
Floor Area: **110 sqm.**
Felipe Opena St., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **291,000.00**

LOT 42 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **590 sqm.**
Floor Area: **60 sqm.**
Lot 1632 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **219,000.00**

LABASON

LOT 43 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **395 sqm.**
Floor Area: **75 sqm.**
Lot 2335-B cor. Manuel L. Quezon & Tandang Sora Sts.
Minimum Bid Price: **333,000.00**

LOT 44 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **689 sqm.**
Floor Area: **58 sqm.**
Lot 1969-A Manuel L. Quezon St., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **555,000.00**

LILOY

LOT 45 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **420 sqm.**
Floor Area: **324 sqm.**
Lot 3 Bo. Baybay
Minimum Bid Price: **1,052,000.00**

LOT 46 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **4,157 sqm.**
Lot E Bo. Baybay
Minimum Bid Price: **1,237,000.00**

LOT 47 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **11,041 sqm.**
Floor Area: **230 sqm.**
Lot C Bo. of Fatima
Minimum Bid Price: **1,391,000.00**

RIZAL

LOT 48 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **789 sqm.**
Floor Area: **158 sqm.**
Lot 5226 & Lot 5227 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **318,000.00**

ROXAS

LOT 49 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **351 sqm.**
Floor Area: **60 sqm.**
Lot 4252-G-2 Poblacion, Roxas
Minimum Bid Price: **158,000.00**

LOT 50 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **567 sqm.**
Floor Area: **60 sqm.**
Lot 4252-G-5 & Lot 4252-G-4 Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price: **218,000.00**

SINDANGAN

LOT 51 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **300 sqm.**
Lot 299-A-8-A-3 Bo. Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **179,000.00**

LOT 52 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **979 sqm.**
Lot 558-F Bo. Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **294,000.00**

LOT 53 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **400 sqm.**
Lot 16, Bo Goleo
Minimum Bid Price: **119,000.00**

LOT 54 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **394 sqm.**
Floor Area: **94 sqm.**
Lot 1612-C Dapaon
Minimum Bid Price: **212,000.00**

LOT 55 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **487 sqm.**
Floor Area: **100 sqm.**
Lot 6-G Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **421,000.00**

LOT 56 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **2,100 sqm.**
Floor Area: **280 sqm.**
Lot 295-C, Lot 295-H, Lot 295-I-A, Lot 295-A Bo. Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **1,552,000.00**

LOT 57 - LOT & IMPRVMNT
Lot Area: **271 sqm.**
Floor Area: **88 sqm.**
Lot 10-C Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **339,000.00**

LOT 58 - LOT ONLY
Lot Area: **2,655 sqm.**
Lot 276-L Disud
Minimum Bid Price: **279,000.00**

LOT 59 - LOT ONLY
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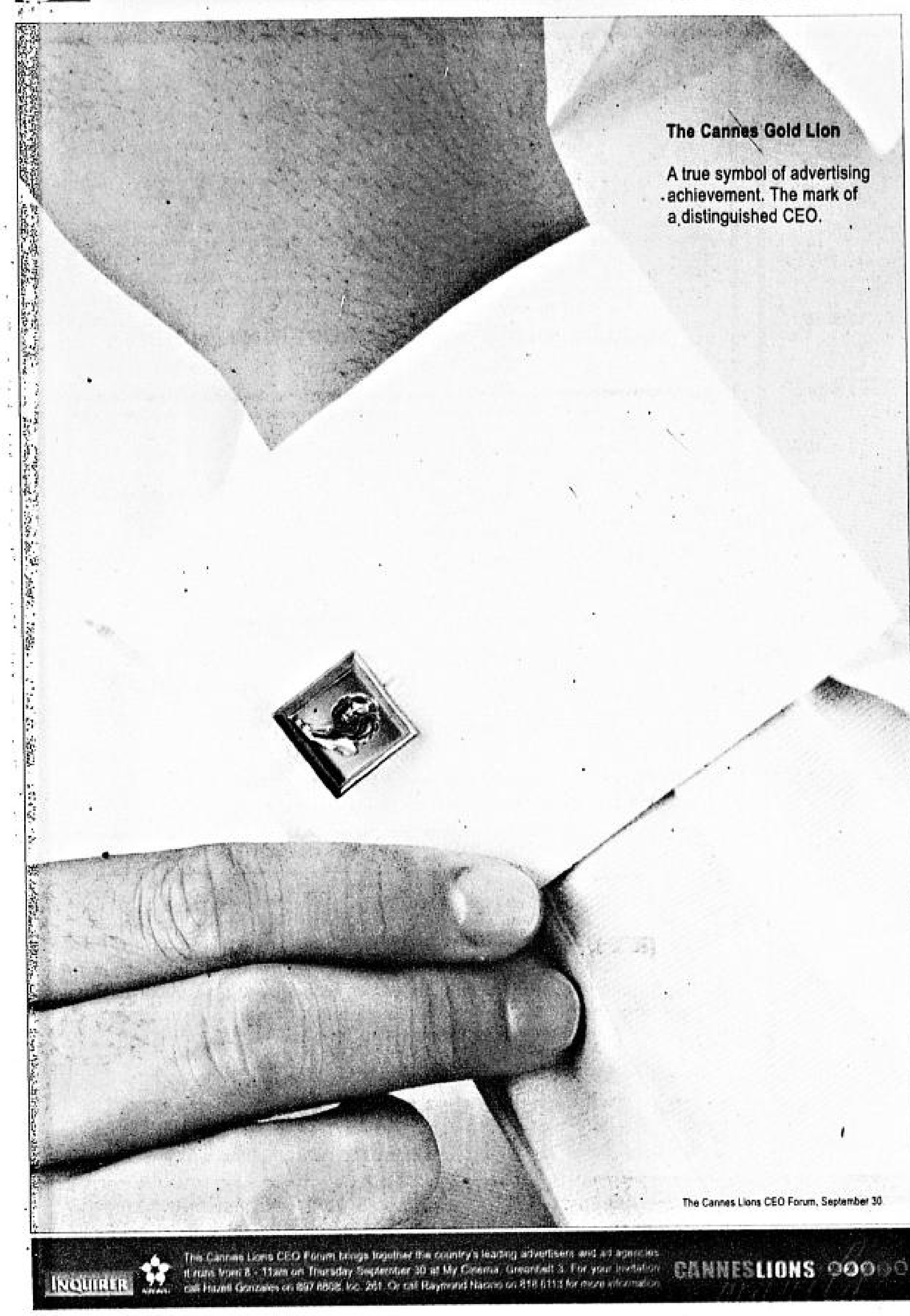
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Gov't seen to lose $200M currency swap with ADB

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT has given up hope that it could make use of a dormant $200-million peso swap and financing facility with the Asian Development Bank.

A government official privy to the discussions with the ADB told reporters there was no chance that the row with the ADB over the terms of the facility would be resolved.

The official noted the deal with the ADB was dead, unless the multilateral lender would reconsider the government's pleas.

"It's not going to push through anymore, unless they (the ADB) buckle down," the official said.

But the government official noted that the bank and the government were unlikely to resolve their differences.

In a separate interview, however, ADB country director Tom Crouch said the bank's offer was still on the table and the bank was still hoping that the facility would finally be fleshed out.

Since the opening of the facility was announced in January this year, the ADB and the government had met several times in an attempt to iron out their differences. No progress had been made.

The ADB facility seeks to provide long-term peso-denominated loans to selected banks for relending to a variety of businesses dependent on peso revenues. The project seeks to help the final borrowers meet their long term funding needs and boost their financial viability by avoiding currency and maturity mismatches.

The bank will source the peso funds for the loans through cross-currency swaps of convertible currency for pesos with the Philippine government. The local currency will be lent to banks at a fixed interest rate without government guarantee.

While there was a lot of demand for the facility, its operation has been derailed by differences in pricing, among other terms. The government is requesting that the ADB price the swap rates below market rates.

The government's position is that international development banks like the ADB should pass on the benefits of their AAA-credit rating to countries like the Philippines.

Under the facility, the banks borrowing from the ADB shall onlend to local businesses. Targeted sectors include infrastructure, transport, manufacturing, small and medium enterprises, housing, and expenditures on environmental improvement.

At present, long-term fixed-interest rate pesos financing is in short supply in the Philippines, limiting private sector and foreign investment in the country. The financing facility aims to address key constraints in financing sectors that are crucial to promoting economic growth.

Breaktime

From page B2

the not the same.

* * *

LET'S not even argue about the weight of the "fake" LPG. Most of tanks are underweight, but that's all right with us, because we are all ignorant consumers.

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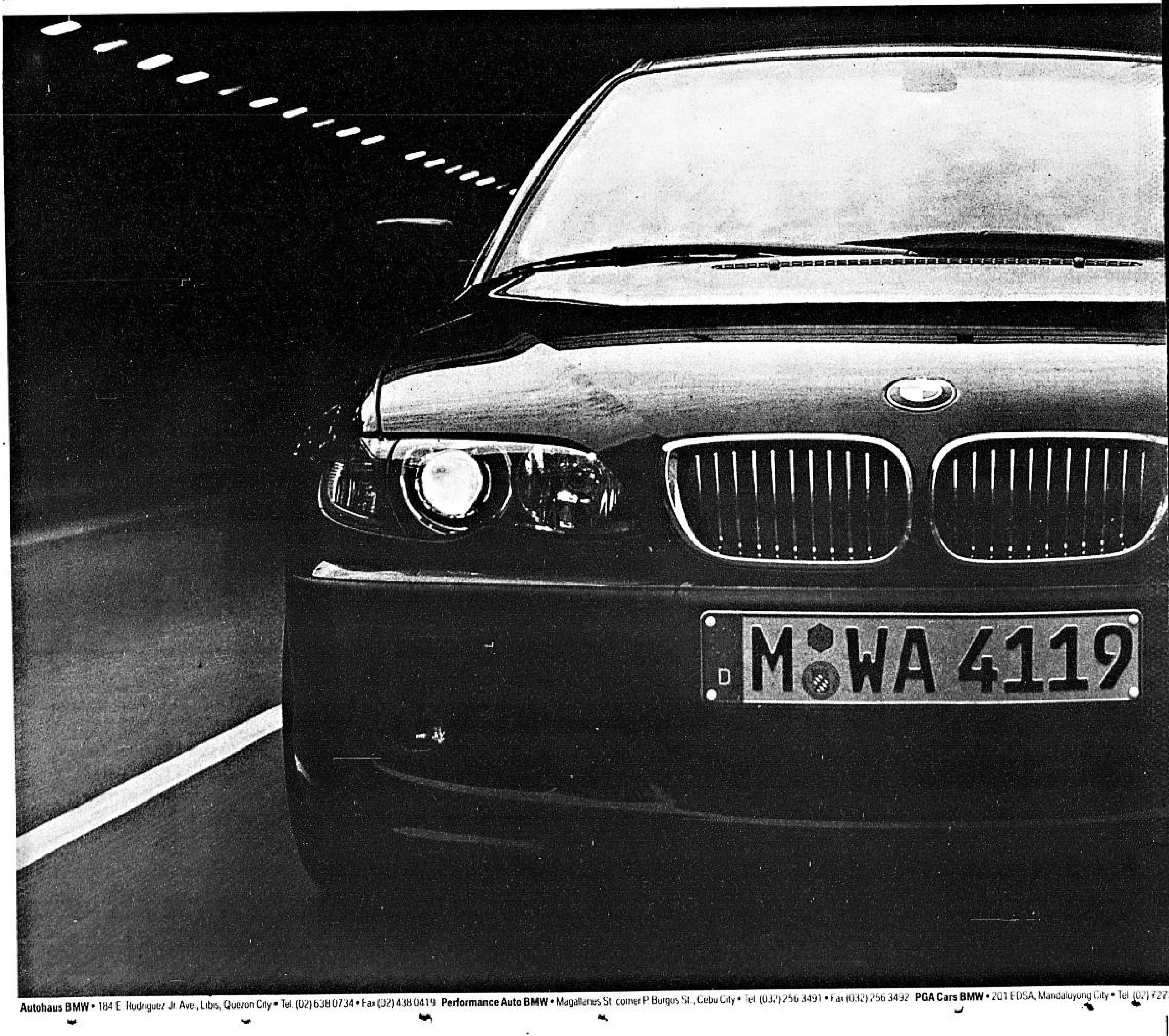
Thus, based on scientific studies, the LPG cylinder must be of a specified thickness.

Anything thicker than the faces of our politicos, for instance, is just a waste. Anything thinner, on the other hand, is dangerous. That's why the cylinders of the genuine article are well maintained.

To remove evidence that they stole the cylinders, the makers of "fake," erase the original logos on the containers by filing them. The cylinders become thinner. This makes the cylinders prone to leaking. That's a good formula to start some accidents.

Most of the "fake" LPGs, by the way, are used in densely populated areas. In other words, in a little accident, you get a lot of broken limbs and bones, if not dead bodies.



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Jan.-Aug. ecozone exports up 22.5% to $20.5B

By Ronnel W. Domingo

TOTAL exports made by the country's economic zones jumped 22.5 percent to $20.5 billion in the first eight months, from $16.8 billion in the same period last year.

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority reported that the four government ecozones yielded a total of $4.67 billion in export receipts from January to August, an increase of 7.7 percent from $4.33 billion in the same period in 2003.

Baguio City Economic Zone exported $2.08 billion worth of products; Cavite Economic Zone, $1.36 billion; Mactan Economic Zone, $1.01 billion, and Bataan Economic Zone, $224.6 million.

Of the government ecozones, Bataan posted the biggest increase in exports this year of 25.3 percent from $179.2 million in the first eight months last year.

Private or special economic zones (SEZ) shipped out a total of $15.85 billion worth of products, an increase of 27.5 percent from $12.42 billion last year.

The top five SEZ exporters are Laguna Technopark Inc., $5.4 billion; Gateway Business Park, $3 billion; Amkor Technology SEZ, $1.54 billion; Carmelray Industrial Park I, $665.9 million, and Lima Technology Center, $520 million.

The biggest SEZ exporter, Laguna Technopark, reported a 14.4-percent increase in exports this year from $4.71 billion last year.

Information technology parks and buildings earned a total of $106.3 million in receipts, an increase of 42 percent from $74.9 million.

The top five IT buildings and parks in the first eight months were: RCBC Place Information, earning $31.2 million; Eastwood City Cyber Park at $28.9 million; Pacific Information Technology, $13.7 million; PBCom Tower, $8 million; and The Enterprise Center, $6.6 million.

Also, total employment in the ecozones rose 12.8 percent, with some 400,000 hired directly and about 600,000 employed indirectly.

The top three employers are Cavite ecozone with 73,000 jobs; Laguna Technopark Inc., 62,350; and Mactan ecozone, 42,550.

In an earlier report, the Peza said ecozone investments in the first eight months jumped 124.4 percent to P29.4 billion from P13.1 billion a year ago.

New projects on electronics and garments boosted economic zone investment commitments by 16.7 percent to P938 million in August alone from P804 million the same month in 2003.

DTI finalizing stance on cement safeguard duty

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry said it would decide on whether to continue, reduce or lift the safeguard duty on imported cement by next month following consultations with industry players.

Cement imports are currently charged safeguard tariff of P15.60 per 40-kilogram bag.

Luis Catibayan, director of the DTI's Bureau of Import Services, said his agency's recommendation to the DTI chief would be based largely on the how local cement firms have adjusted their businesses to be more competitive.

"The law provides for progressive liberalization of the safeguard measure," Catibayan said. "(But) failure of the industry to make the necessary adjustments is a basis for the termination of the measure."

The mechanism is allowed under the Safeguard Measures Law or Republic Act No. 8800 provided that local firms fine-tune their operations until the safeguard tariff is effective.

The three-year safeguard took effect on Dec. 10, 2001 following the DTI's findings at that time that the surge in imports was causing "serious injury" to the local industry.

The BIS had given industry players until Oct. 2 to submit their position papers on the safeguard, which would expire in three months.

The Cement Manufacturers Association of the Philippines said the rising electricity prices were aggravating already high costs of inputs even as factories strive to match energy-efficient or -endowed rivals.

Cemap president Felix Enrico R. Alfiler said power rates in Luzon were expected to rise 34 percent in view of the P1.23- per kilowatt hike in National Power Corp.'s rates. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

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4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs. 2"x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasion (cp# 0919-2885303) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 0916-3021735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

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The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) invites interested bidders to prequalify and participate in the forthcoming bidding for the following service requirements for CY 2005, located at TESDA Complex, Taguig, Metro Manila and NITVET – NCTESD Marikina City.

BID PACKAGE I – JANITORIAL SERVICES
BID PACKAGE II – SECURITY SERVICES

Prequalification documents may be obtained from the Procurement and Supply Division, 3rd Floor, TESDA Complex, Administration Building, East Service Road, South Superhighway, Taguig, Metro Manila, during office hours from October 6 to October 8, 2004. Interested bidders may secure prequalification documents for Fifty Pesos only (P 50.00).

Deadline for the submission of prequalification documents is on October 25, 2004. Prospective bidders shall be advised in due course of the results of their application for the prequalification.

Only bidders who are prequalified can get copies of the bidding documents upon payment of the non-refundable amount of One Thousand Pesos only (Php 1,000.00) and can participate in the bidding. The pre-bid conference, submission and opening of bids shall be announced later.

For further information/clarification on the aboved matters, please call telephone numbers 893-8296 and 817-4076 local 313 - 315.

TESDA reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received or to accept such bids which maybe considered most responsive and advantageous to the government.

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of New York City and Novaliches, Q.C.

Husband of
Adelaida Agoncillo (†)

April 8, 1903 – September 21, 2004

Children:
Nita and **Nilo Santos**
Sonia (†) and **Rey Albores**
Don and **Laila Teves**
Marissa and **Henry Beck**
Angelito and **Imelda Teves**
Nestor and **Esther Teves**
Evar and **Susan Teves**

Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

His body lies in state
at Arlington Memorial Chapels,
Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Holy Cross Memorial Park
following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday,
September 26, 2004.

In Loving Memory of

ROLANDO DIONISIO PAPA

of Taguig and Malabon City

Peacefully joined his Creator
on September 20, 2004 at the age of 60
in St. Francis Hospital, N.Y.C.

His bereaved wife **Rosie Marcelo**; children **Roselle** and **Yuri Allado, Roby, Ryan** and **Anne, Ron**; granchildren **Annika, Seve** and **Angela**; mother **Elisa**; brothers, sisters and in-laws **Ricky** and **Paloming, Shalene** and **Boy Dizon, Rey** and **Tinggoy, Rosan, Ernie** and **Flery Marcelo, Linda** and **Resty Tiangco, Tessie** and **Coy Virata**, and other relatives request our friends and pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body will lie in state at 223 C. Arellano St., Malabon City on Sunday, September 26.

Cremation will be on Wednesday, September 29, at the Eternal Gardens Crematorium after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Immaculate Concepcion Church, Malabon City.

Please omit flowers. In lieu of these, donations for the Immaculate Concepcion Parish, San Jose de Navotas Parish or for Caritas Manila will be appreciated.

"You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delight at your right hand forever..."
Psalm 16:11

Our Beloved Papa

RAFAEL ACUÑA ARNALDO

(Former President, Philippine Veterans Bank
and the PhilTrust Bank)

Passed away in the Grace of our
Lord on 23 September 2004 at the age of 83.

His loving wife, **Gregoria Cruz-Arnaldo**;
children, **Tony** and **Anatess**,
Chuchi Libongco and **Jim Oracion**;
sister, **Marina A. Legaspi**;
grandchildren, relatives and friends, request
the readers to join them in praying for the
eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the St. Jerome Church,
Commerce Avenue, Ayala Alabang.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated on
Sunday, 26 September 2004
at 1:00 p.m. at the St. James the Great
Parish Church, Cuenca Street,
Ayala Alabang Village. Interment will
immediately follow at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the following
charities would be greatly appreciated:
St. James Church of the Poor Apostolate
or St. Joseph's House, Casa Miani.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

ATTY. JOSE "Peping" S. PADOLINA

3 November 1920 – 22 September 2004

His wife **Rosalina**; loving children and in-laws, **Pancho** and **Letty**, **Danny** and **Eleonor**, **Pempe** and **Badette**, **Jocelyn** and **Gil**, **Maribot**, **Lito**; grandchildren, brother and sisters, relatives and friends request to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in the state at the Shrine of our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Doña Juana Rodriguez St. (formerly Broadway).

Interment will be on Sunday, September 26, 2004 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City at 2:00pm.

I am the way,
the truth and the
life. No one
comes
to the Father
except through
Me.
John 14:6

ATTY. CESAR G. RAMIREZ JR.

Peacefully joined our Lord
on September 24, 2004 at the age of 71.

His bereaved wife **Carmelita Caparros**; children **Donaldo & Ma. Nayda, Rey Angelo & Ma. Luisa, Ma. Czarina & Darwin Mababa, Czar Carmelo**; grandchildren **Niki, Nina, Nadine, Renzo, Leila** and **Mia Catharina**.

His body lies in state at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (CLARET), U.P. Village, Diliman, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at the North Cemetery, Manila after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish.

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Surviving sudden cardiac arrests

By Gil C. Ramas, MD
Contributor

THE SUDDEN death recently of a healthy and robust American Federal Bureau of Investigation agent in one of our hotels did not cause sufficient alarm in the country to make people aware of a lethal condition that is catching the attention of the rest of the world. Nor did the sudden death of two healthy men who unexpectedly collapsed while exercising in one of the city's gyms.

That FBI agents undergo regular physical training plus the fact that the first victim was only 52 years old and that the two gym members were most likely fit should have made us consider the many other sudden death incidents that happen daily. Chances are that the three men died of a condition rarely discussed outside medical circles.

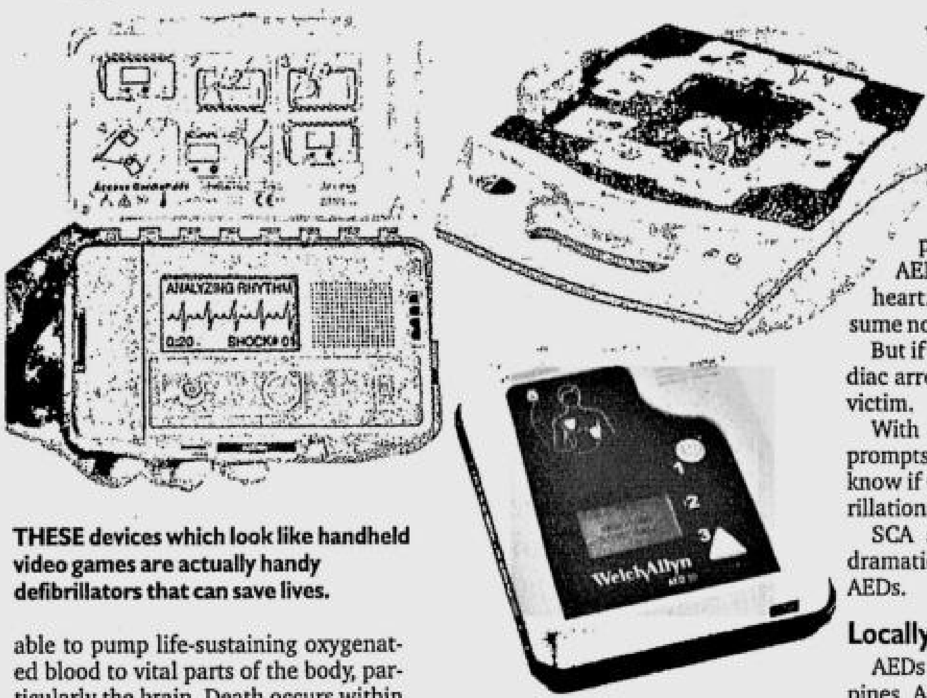
Although a lot of information about sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is readily available in the Internet, it seems this global killer still has to catch the attention of Filipinos even if it might very well be the greatest killer in the country.

Sudden cardiac arrest, sometimes called "massive heart attack," kills nearly 500,000 Americans each year and is, in fact, the No. 1 health care problem in America.

Death in minutes

During SCA, the heart suddenly stops beating normally. The rhythmical electrical impulses controlling the beating of the heart are disturbed and are characterized by rapid, chaotic contractions called ventricular fibrillation.

While in fibrillation, the heart is unable to pump life-sustaining oxygenated blood to vital parts of the body, particularly the brain. Death occurs within minutes.



THESE devices which look like handheld video games are actually handy defibrillators that can save lives.

If normal heart rhythm can be restored by a defibrillator within two minutes, there's up to 92-percent chance of reviving the patient. Some 60 percent of sufferers survive if defibrillated within the first four minutes.

The American Heart Association says that each minute of delay in delivering a reviving shock to an SCA victim reduces the chances of survival by 10 percent.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) helps maintain the restored heart and pulmonary activity. But, contrary to what was once believed, CPR cannot reverse ventricular fibrillation, the chaotic cardiac rhythm most often seen in SCA victims. This can only be stopped and corrected by applying an electrical shock to the heart to get its own electrical system back to rhythm.

In May 2000, the United States enacted a law requiring defibrillators in federally managed buildings and airports as well as in all passenger aircraft flying in American airspace.

Small wonders

The defibrillators the law requires are not the bulky, heavy machines one sees in hospitals that require a regular power source and cannot be operated except by doctors. The law mandates much more sophisticated, smaller, laptop-size, battery-operated, easy-to-use machines that will shock SCA victims back to life. These are easy to operate that anyone can use them in case of an emergency.

These small wonders are called automated external defibrillators, or AEDs. They deliver an electric shock to the heart to terminate lethal cardiac arrests at the site where the SCA occurs. They work in the same way the big units do but with a much higher rate of success since their application is more immediate than when a victim has to be rushed to the nearest hospital.

Increased survival

AEDs detect and analyze heart rhythms through electrodes attached to the victim's chest. If the victim is experiencing cardiac arrest, the AED will deliver a shock to the heart. This causes the heart to resume normal pumping activity.

But if the victim is not in sudden cardiac arrest, the AED will not shock the victim.

With its automated voice or visual prompts, the AED will let the rescuer know if CPR is needed instead of defibrillation.

SCA survival rates have increased dramatically since the introduction of AEDs.

Locally available

AEDs are now available in the Philippines. As of this writing, there are four known brands being distributed here. These are the products of Access CardioSystems, Cardiac Science, Welch Allyn and Zoll Medical Corp.

Of these brands, Access is the smallest unit and can be held in the palm of one's hand.

Welch Allyn manufactures and distributes a whole line of medical equipment. It is a major player in the medical equipment industry and has only recently gone into the AED field but is already a major player.

Zoll Medical is a defibrillator specialist and makes all models, from large hospital units to the AED Plus, which it claims to be the easiest to use in the world.

Cardiac Science offers Powerheart that is reputedly designed to quickly and easily provides a life-saving defibrillation shock to a cardiac arrest victim.

(The author is a hyperbaric physician and consultant at the Camp Lapu-lapu Station Hospital, Cebu.)

Fast Facts

WHAT is an automated external defibrillator (AED)?

It is a portable automatic device used to restore normal heart rhythm to patients in cardiac arrest. It is applied outside the body. It automatically analyzes the patient's heart rhythm and advises the rescuer whether or not a shock is needed to restore a normal heart beat.

When is it used?

It is used to treat cardiac arrest. It is a life-saving device because cardiac arrest is a sudden condition that is fatal if not treated within a few minutes.

How does it work?

An AED consists of a small computer (microprocessor), electrodes and electrical circuitry. The electrodes collect information about the heart's rhythm. The microprocessor interprets the rhythm, and recommends a defibrillating shock when necessary. The shock is delivered by adhesive electrode pads through the victim's chest wall, and into the heart. There are special low-power electrode pads for use on children.

What will it accomplish?

The AED delivers an electric shock that stuns the heart momentarily, stopping all activity. This gives the heart a chance to restart normal electrical activity and resume beating effectively.

What are the risks?

Most trained users can operate AEDs safely. There is some risk of electric shock to the operator and others if the operator has not been trained to avoid touching the patient. Other risks include skin burns from the electrodes, abnormal heart rhythms and blood clots.

When should it not be used?

The device should not be used in a patient who has a pulse. It should also be avoided under conditions where the patient cannot be isolated from other people (for example, in the standing water of a rowboat that is filled with passengers who are either touching the patient or the water).

US Food and Drug Administration

Vanilla for sickle cell disease

PICTURE several tennis balls being sucked into a large vacuum hose and you get an idea of how red blood cells, normally smooth and round, can pass through the smallest blood vessels to carry blood and vital nutrients to all parts of the body.

If those tennis balls were changed into boomerangs, picture them being sucked into the same hose. The boomerangs won't fit, no matter how you try.

This is what happens several times a year to the red blood cells of people with sickle cell disease. As the red blood cells pile up outside the blood vessel, the person suffers a great deal of pain and serious health problems. The red blood cell levels in other parts of the body fall, which can damage the tissues and organs if deprived of their nutrients for too long.

Sickle cell anemia is a genetic disorder caused by the change of a single amino acid in the genetic sequence of hemoglobin. This change makes the hemoglobin S molecules in the red blood cell clump together, which causes the red blood cell to change shape, or "sickle."

The only cure at the moment is a bone marrow transplant, where the patient's own marrow is first destroyed and then replaced with the marrow of a compatible donor. It is a process full of risks. The treatments usually include frequent blood transfusions to increase the level of red blood cells and taking painkillers.

Produced in the womb

In the last decade, a drug called hydroxyurea, which is used by cancer patients for its antitumor effects, has also been found to reduce the need for both painkillers and transfusions.

Hydroxyurea works by increasing the amount of fetal hemoglobin (the hemoglobin humans produce while still growing in the womb) which prevents the hemoglobin S molecules inside the red blood cells from clumping together and "sickling."

With only one drug available, researchers have long sought another treatment for sickle cell anemia.

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

Several decades ago, scientists discovered that a compound of vanilla called vanillin stopped red blood cells from morphing into sickle cells by preventing the hemoglobin S molecules from sticking to each other.

Vanillin worked really well when tested in the lab, but when tested on live subjects, researchers found that the compound was digested before it had a chance to work on the red blood cells.

Synthetic compound

Forty years after the vanillin problem was first discussed, hematologist Toshio Asakura of the Division of Hematology at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and researchers from the Department of Pharmacology of Medinox Inc., a biotechnology company in San Diego, have found a way for the drug to work after being swallowed.

Results of the work appeared in the June issue of the British Journal of Haematology.

To prevent vanillin from being digested before it can work on the red blood cells, Asakura et al. used a synthetic form of the compound MX-1520. The compound broke down when ingested and turned into vanillin, which could then work on preventing "sickling" in the red blood cells.

Asakura et al. gave several mice with sickle cell disease either the vanillin or the MX-1520 by injection or orally and then exposed them to low oxygen levels to bring about similar conditions experienced by sickle cell anemia patients.

Tests showed that rats which were not given either drug died within six minutes.

The rats that took the MX-1520 orally lived for half-an-hour. Asakura et al. noted that some of the MX-1520 was lost in the digestive process when swallowed, so a larger dose was necessary. However, the mice that received the injections of MX-1520 required lower doses to receive similar benefits.

Most people don't have to wonder about how the blood in their bodies circulates because their red blood cells move easily through the blood vessels. Someday, it is hoped people with sickle cell disease will be able to do the same. Medinox may soon start clinical trials, which will hopefully result in MX-1520 reaching the consumers.

In the meantime, Dr. Asakura reminds people with sickle cell disease that they shouldn't eat more vanilla because the vanillin will not last inside the body long enough to do any good. If they do indulge in a few extra scoops of ice cream though, it is unlikely anyone will ever think of vanilla as a boring flavor.

E-mail the author at massie @massie.com.

KIDS QUIZ WEEK 8

Moonstruck

OUR solar system consists of the sun, the nine planets and their moons, and numerous asteroids, comets, stars and meteors. Do you know that some of the planets do not have their own moons while some have more than 10? These moons were even given their own names to distinguish them from each other. Check your knowledge by matching the planet on the left with the number of moons it has on the right.

Dianne M. Villafuerte

Planet	No. of moons
1. Mercury	a) 2
2. Venus	b) 0
3. Earth	c) 18
4. Mars	d) 8
5. Jupiter	e) 1
6. Saturn	f) 0
7. Uranus	g) 5
8. Neptune	h) 16
9. Pluto	i) 21
	j) 1

10. Which planet has 11 new moons?

ANSWERS to last week's quiz: 1-h, 2-b, 3-e, 4-j, 5-c, 6-k, 7-d, 8-f, 9-i, 10-g

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Arithmetic and time zones

JINBO Jean Sumergido [jin_j_s@yahoo.com] has this math question:

I am a BS Applied Math student of the University of the Philippines in Mindanao. We have our individual Special Problem as our thesis and my problem is on M. B. Wells' ordering. I would like to ask for some information about the ordering, especially how it is done. I've searched the Net but all I have is the list of permutations when n = 4 only. I hope you could help me with my problem. Thank you very much.

There is not much literature on M. B. Wells' ordering because his system is not commonly found in textbooks and manuals. Despite your difficulties accessing information from the Net, it is still the most useful resource. Wells' papers deal mostly with combinatorial theory. Here are some URL's which can be useful. But you might have to pay to be able to access the journal articles:

In a computing literature survey article: portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=1013230.511824

In a book of math essays: www.maths.cam.ac.uk/CASM/essays/abstracts.pdf

In a combinatorics journal: www.informatik.uni-trier.de/~ley/db/indices/a-tree/w/Wells:M=_B=.html

On Latin squares: www.combinatorics.org/Volume_2/PDFFiles/v2i1n3.pdf

In integer sequences: www.research.att.com/~njas/sequences/eisbib.html

I commend your efforts in studying a rare topic. Good luck!

Order of operations

From Josh Carlo Jardin [jasper_pare@edsamail.com.ph] of the Ateneo de

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

Manila High School:

Your articles really help me a lot and prepare me well for math. I e-mailed you because I'm having problems with my homework, especially in solving problems with combined addition, multiplication, addition and division in one equation.

For example, $5+12/4*3= n$. What is the correct answer: 14 or 6? Which should go first; division or multiplication? Or does it depend on the equation?

The order of operations, using the rule MDAS, has been a constant source of headache for both teachers and students. I have written about this previously, but it seems to be worth discussing again here.

In any equation, the first thing to do is to take note of grouping symbols such as parentheses or brackets. Whatever operations are included within these symbols should be done first. In your example, however, there are no grouping symbols, which means we can proceed straight to the order of operations.

Multiplication or division should be done first, in the order by which they appear in the equation. This is the answer to your question "depending on the equation."

In your example, you have to divide 12 by 4 first before multiplying the answer by 3. The result is 9. Addition and subtraction are the final operations, to be done in the order in which they appear. In your example, you have to add 5. The answer is 14.

Time zones

Arnel Sugay [lucis63@yahoo.com] asks:

Why are there different time zones in the USA?

It is not just the United States which has different time zones. Usually, huge areas like continents need different time zones. Time zones are a good way of organizing time to ensure that people living in a large area share the same time, which can simplify things immensely. People living at around the same longitude usually have the same local time, such as the Philippines and Hong Kong. Twenty-five standard time zones exist around the world, with respect to the Universal Time Clock (UTC).

You hear phrases such as "+5 hours of -10 hours of UTC." Plus 5 hours means that if UTC time is 12 noon, then five hours is "added," giving a local time of 5 p.m. (I am sure you can guess what -10 hours means.)

Interestingly enough, did you know that some places do not follow the standard time zones? For instance, Kathmandu is 5 hours and 45 minutes ahead of UTC. In the United States, things get complicated, too, with another sort of time: Daylight Saving Time (which we tried to adopt locally a few decades ago, with mixed results). But that's another story.

E-mail the author at blessbook@yahoo.com.

Obesity among RP kids emerging, say doctors

By Tessa R. Salazar

A ONE-PERCENT increase in the prevalence of overweight children 0 to 5 years old and a 1.3-percent increase of overweight children 6 to 10 years old from 1998 to 2003 may not seem that alarming, but doctors from the Philippine Heart Association view the figures with a sense of foreboding.

These small figures, which came from the latest Food and Nutrition Research Institute survey, might be deceptive, PHA doctors say. The underlying factors contributing to these figures have a much more destructive potential, they say.

A consistent increase of overweight children has been attributed to the growing dependence on fast food and junk foods, and sedentary lifestyles (e.g. preference for video games over physical activities), and these factors could push obesity to epidemic proportions in years to come.

Doctors fear this would ultimately lead to record-high incidences of weight-related diseases such as hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.

Cardiovascular risk

Dr. Edison Ty, chair of the PHA council on rheumatic fever, cited foreign studies that showed 60 percent of overweight 5- to 10-year-old children had at least one associated cardiovascular (CV) risk factor and 25 percent had two or more.

Fatty livers were also commonly found among obese children, which could lead to another set of disease risks. This, Ty said, was yet another reason to prevent obesity.

He also cited a local study by Dr. Siok Soan Chan-Cua ("Profiles of obese Filipino children and adolescents") showing that one-third of obese children had elevated triglyceride and cholesterol levels.

A person is considered overweight if he weighs 10 percent more than his ideal body weight. He is obese if he weighs 20 percent more than his ideal body weight.

The ideal weight should be based on the Body Mass Index (BMI), which is weight over height, said Dr. Cristina S. Dablo, chief of the DOH's healthy lifestyle division.

More sugar in food

Doctors are also expressing concern over the habit of many parents of frequently bringing their children to fast-food restaurants, as well as the increasing practice of food manufacturers of adding sugar and sweeteners to snack food.

And these food, they say, are made even more irresistible in the media.

"We cannot beat an endorsement by Aga Muhlach and Sharon Cuneta. This is a free country," said Ramy S. Diez, PHA vice president for external affairs.

"Obesity is coming from many directions," Diez said. "Food manufacturers have gone out of control over the years. They have started putting more sugar to a lot of food. If you go to the grocery, you can buy sweet hotdogs."

"And restaurants have followed suit. Your kids will not eat spaghetti unless it has sweet sauce. The original Italian sauce is not sweet."

"This is something for the government and the private sector to think about," he added.

Healthy food

In the coming months, Makati City will be advocating for healthy menus in restaurants in the city.

Dr. Ma. Lourdes Salud, Makati City health officer, said there would be a city-wide meeting with managers of restaurants and fast-food outlets in November to discuss healthy menu offerings.

Salud added that Makati has been closely monitoring food in the city's school canteens and has found out that most of the food served were categorized as junk food.

"It is frustrating that schools teach children the right food to eat but the canteens are not doing the same," she said.

But according to Fely Velandria, FNRI supervising science research specialist, there is no such a thing as "junk food."

"They may be referring to chips and snacks that are high on calories, but [keep in mind] that Filipinos have inadequate caloric intake and also lack micronutrients such as vitamin A, iron and iodine," Velandria said.

Pinoy Health Pass makes quality health care open to the poor

By Charles E. Buban

TIME and again, the government has been asking pharmaceutical companies to reduce their drug prices. While some heed the call, some say it would be impossible to do so due to various reasons, including the high cost of research for innovative products.

GlaxoSmithKline president and managing director Amado Tadena says that while his company is able to bring down drug prices to a "significant level," it believes this is not the real solution to the problem.

"Even if we cut our prices by half, such a reduction would still have little impact on economically hard-pressed Filipinos," says Tadena.

He says the problem is not the price of medicine but the ability of the poor to buy medicine.

Three years ago, GlaxoSmithKline Foundation decided to start a program that would result in a more effective and lasting solution to the problem of making health care accessible to the poorest segment of society.

The program was called Pinoy Health Pass, which aimed to give poor families in select barangays nationwide access to quality health care through private sector participation.

Health insurance for all

With health insurance in the Philippines covering only the formally employed sector, GSK decided it was time the private sector led the initiative in bringing quality healthcare to the country's unemployed and underemployed sector.

GSK decided to partner with the Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth), the government's health insurance arm.

Through the program, the GSK Foundation provided health insurance coverage to some 10,000 urban poor Filipino families in 2001, paying 50 percent of the policy premium on the first year with the remaining 50 percent being paid for by PhilHealth.

In the succeeding year, the foundation shouldered 25 percent of the policy premium, while the local government unit (LGU) shouldered the other 25 percent. The remaining 50 percent was paid for by PhilHealth.

The Pinoy Health Pass entitled enrollees a medical insurance that covered hospitalization benefits similar to that enjoyed by those enrolled with PhilHealth.

In addition, the poor family is entitled to diagnostic services (chest X-ray, sputum exam, urinalysis, blood test and stool exam) that can be used on an outpatient basis.

The beneficiaries, selected by PhilHealth and the LGUs according to a set of criteria, included poor families in Manila, Quezon City, Cainta, Taytay, Ilocos Sur, Dumaguete and Tacloban.

Education now the focus

Now on its third year, the focus of the program has shifted from insurance distribution to education.

It aims to teach beneficiaries how to give equal importance to both curative and preventive aspects of healthcare.

"We need to emphasize to these families the importance of preventive care—concentrating on 'wellness' as opposed to 'illness'—as one way to reduce health care costs, since preventive measures are cheaper in comparison with the cost of treating disease once it has already developed," Tadena says.

Disease awareness and prevention modules cover breast, lung, prostate and cervical cancer as well as diarrhea. These activities are supplemented with educational brochures, comics and leaflets that GSK provided.

Says Tadena: "Although we are still in the process of fine-tuning the program, we believe the model is a good jump-start in providing quality health care to underprivileged Filipinos. We hope other private entities will follow what we have started."

Medicine still a noble profession

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

IT USED to be a joke that only in the Philippines was medicine considered a prenursing course. Today, this is no longer a laughing matter. The situation has reached a point where the local healthcare industry has become not only moribund but is in a very serious condition.

MEDICAL FILES

And it seems our government officials still do not realize how serious it is. Or if they do, they feel helpless about it.

Even Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit, a guy I have always known to have a sense of urgency, looks like he has given up when he said that although he supports the salary upgrading of health professionals, there's nothing he could do since the health budget just could not afford it. He agrees that healthcare workers are better off abroad than staying here earning meager wages or worse, being jobless.

As if to add insult to injury, the health budget has been slashed.

And now we hear that some legislators are thinking of refiling the medical malpractice bill of former congressman Oscar Rodriguez. Talk of bad timing.

Midwives as doctors

Medical schools and small hospitals are closing down.

Some health centers in the rural areas are unmanned. In some areas, midwives have no choice but to hang stethoscopes around their necks and act like doctors. We don't recommend this, but it's probably better than seeing patients die without the benefit of even basic medical care.

When some of these patients finally have a chance to go to the city for further treatment, the attending physicians note that the initial treatment given by these midwives served as good palliative treatment which prevented more serious complications.

Concerted action

Dr. Dante Morales, probably one of the jolliest and most respected heart specialists in the country, is urging colleagues in the medical community to take serious action before it's too late. From his text messages, I could almost hear him saying that we should stop hoping that the government or other sectors will fix the problem.

Doctors and healthcare professionals should take the lead. Hopefully, others will be moved to act, too.

Dr. Willie Ong, a fellow of the Philippine College of Physicians, is one of our idealistic doctors who still believes that something could be done about the problem. He has been tasked by the PCP to rally its more than 6,000 members to take concerted action.

The low morale and poor image of doctors, which partly has been painted by the media, can only be changed by the doctors themselves.

Commitment remains

The PCP maintains that although close to 10,000 Filipino doctors have shifted to nursing in the last three years, majority of doctors here are committed to care for their countrymen in times of crisis and calamity.

Many doctors give free services, go on medical missions and even provide medicines and help generate funds to subsidize their patient's treatment.

Countless doctors also risk their lives every day caring for patients with life-threatening infections like HIV-AIDS, SARS, tuberculosis and hepatitis.

I once asked noted lung specialist Dr. Camilo Roa, also a PCP fellow, if he ever considered his own safety every time he treated cases of drug-resistant tuberculosis or even SARS-like pneumonia.

He just smiled and said, "We chose this profession. Let's do whatever it entails."

Service above gain

The PCP, currently headed by Dr. Adrian Peña and Dr. Venancio Gloria, has reiterated to its members its pledged mission of "Service above gain."

It has enjoined its members to sign a covenant to stay in the country for the next three years and to spend a portion of his or her time for charity work.

Even nonmembers can participate in this covenant, which is being undertaken together with the Philippine Medical Association and the 13 component societies under the PCP umbrella. Interested and committed doctors may call the PCP secretariat at 910-2250, 910-2252 or 910-2254.

This is one instance when doctors can still stand tall and show their country that they care.

Responding to research needs of RP doctors

PHARMACEUTICAL company Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) pioneered the establishment of a network of centers designed to address the continuing medical and professional education needs of the Filipino physicians. In 1996, MSD opened its first MSD Resource Center (MRC) on Padre Faura Street, Ermita, Manila.

The MRC has been a boon to medical practitioners who have only good words to say about this private sector initiative. "I heard about the MSD Resource Center when I was still in residency training and was impressed with MSD's commitment in promoting continuing medical education in the medical profession," says Dr. Daniel Yap, medical director at the General Santos Doctors Hospital.

"However, I noticed that many of the resource centers were located in urban centers with university hospitals that can also provide medical journals and research papers. I was hoping at that time that MSD would also offer its facilities and Medline resources to rural areas such as General Santos City," relates Dr. Yap.

Timely project

"I was so delighted to learn that MSD agreed to open a satellite office in our hospital library as part of its outreach program," enthuses Dr. Yap.

He says it was a timely project since many medical experts have declined to visit and give scientific lectures.

An integral part of MSD's mission of improving healthcare nationwide, the MRC provides data and computer services to help busy physicians access the latest medical information and literature on the diagnosis and treatment of patient conditions.

The MRC is equipped with a communications system and medical literature research facilities for the use and benefit of residents, fellows and consultants of the hospital, as well as those from neighboring hospitals. It has facilities for medical information services such as browsing, information tracking and retrieval, computer use, and free Internet access. It also provides slide-making assistance and access to online medical journals and to Medline in CD-ROM.

Positive impact

"With the MSD Resource Center, we now have an opportunity to update ourselves with the advances in medicine and surgery without leaving the confines of our hospital," adds Dr. Yap. "I am sure that my colleagues will agree that this project of the General Santos Doctors Hospital and MSD will definitely have a positive impact on the quality of healthcare services to the patients in the Socsargen area."

The GSDH-MRC is the first MRC satellite office in the country and one of the 11 medical research centers established by MSD. Other MRCs are located at the Philippine General Hospital, Philippine Heart Center, Philippine Orthopedic Center, University of Santo Tomas Hospital, Makati Medical Center, San Juan de Dios Hospital, Davao Doctors' Hospital, Davao Medical Center, Batangas Medical Society, Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center (Cebu), and Perpetual Succor Hospital (Cebu).

Menopausal Therapies:
There is one best suited for you...

The onset of menopausal symptoms is triggered by the sudden decline in the production of the female hormones estrogen and progesterone as women approach the age of 50. Doctors recommend menopausal therapies (MT) to alleviate these symptoms.

There are different types of MT to choose from. One is plain or unopposed ERT or estrogen replacement therapy which has purely estrogen content. Another is EPT or Estrogen + Progestin Therapy (EPT) which is estrogen plus synthetic progesterone.

ERT is given to patients who have already undergone surgical menopause where the ovaries or uterus, or both have been removed. EPT was developed to counter the effects of unopposed estrogen which was shown to produce unwanted effects on the breast and uterus.

Another preparation belonging to the classification STEAR (Selective Tissue Estrogenic Activity Regulator) is an estrogenic, progestogenic and androgenic compound. The selective properties of STEAR allow it to produce the desired effects on the bone, brain and vaginal tissues while avoiding the undesired effects on the breast and uterus associated with ERT and EPT.

An added benefit with STEAR is its effect on mood and libido. Androgen, a male hormone also present in the female body in small amounts regulates women's sexuality. It is believed that the androgenic activity in STEAR is responsible for improving the sexual well-being of women especially in terms of desire and arousability. STEAR comes in the form of convenient oral tablets taken daily.

Symptoms will recommence once you stop taking menopausal therapies. Those who do not achieve any relief are advised not to stop taking it abruptly. Visit your doctor now and enjoy the benefits MT offers. Remember there is one best suited for your needs.

For questions and suggestions please email:livial@organon.ph or text: 0917-852 3350

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

IT investments drop as piracy rate rises

By Abigail L. Ho

SOFTWARE piracy is taking its toll on software and related information technology investments.

Fresh investment infusions in computer software and other related IT projects plummeted by 28.5 percent in 2003 as the piracy rate in 2002 rose to 68 percent.

In a paper titled Philippine Software Industry: Economic Contributions and Copyright Enforcement, University of the Philippines School of Economics professor Ramon Clarete and Sining Cuevas showed the adverse effects of software piracy on the IT investment environment.

Using data from the Board of Investments and an independent piracy study on Asia-Pacific countries, the paper showed that investments in IT projects in 2000 grew fourfold with the country's piracy rate declining by 7 percentage points in 1999 from 77 percent to 70 percent.

New investments likewise rose by 38.2 percent in 2001 when the 2000 piracy rate was pegged at 61 percent, a drop of 9 percentage points from the previous year's figure.

But when the country's software piracy rate climbed back up in 2001 to 63 percent from 61 percent the year before, the level of investments for that year fell.

In 2002, when piracy again increased to 68 percent, new investments the following year went down by 28.5 percent.

The level of new employment likewise declined when piracy rates were up.

New hiring dropped by more than half in 2002 when piracy rate was pegged at 63 percent the year before, higher than the 2000 level of 61 percent. The same happened in 2003 when new employment declined by 65 percent as the piracy rate inched up to 68 percent in 2002.

Firms base their investment and hiring decisions on year-before piracy figures.

The paper also showed that the same inverse relationship could be observed between software piracy and IT investments in general, not just those in software and other related services.

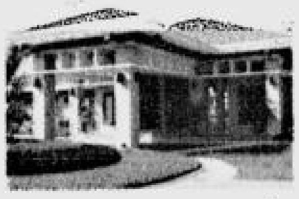
"From 1997-2000, when the piracy rates were decreasing, total levels of new IT investments and employment continued to increase. The reverse occurred in 2002-2003 when the piracy rates rose to 63 percent and 68 percent in 2001 and 2002, respectively," the study said.

"This means that the whole IT industry, and not only the software development and service sub-sector, is affected by the infringement in software copyright," it added.

The study then pointed out the importance of strong intellectual property rights enforcement to ensure the inflow of more new investments in the IT industry.

IPR laws then become of utmost importance in luring investors to sink their hard-earned cash into the Philippine IT market.

"One of the major concerns of IT investors is the rate by which their investments are protected. IPR protection builds the investors' confidence on the country's markets and the government's dedication and capabilities toward the cause," the paper said.



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"When my investment allows me to sleep at night, I know I've made the right decision."

Eric Rabat
Ayala Westgrove Heights Lot Owner

It's never easy to look for a worthwhile investment. After all, with the amount of work one puts in just to earn a good living, the risks of making a bad investment almost always outweigh the gains. Should I invest in a business? A franchise? Stocks? Bonds? Or should I play it safe and leave my money in the bank?

These were the questions that haunted Eric Rabat for many years. He has always seen himself as a conservative investor; one who takes calculated risks and plans for the long-term. Before going into any venture, he usually does research and makes inquiries from more experienced folks. When he put up his food franchise, he made sure he took these steps. Not surprisingly, his pre-planning paid off big time. And when the time came for him to take another leap – buying his first major land investment – he adopted the same strategy.

He knew that the South would be a good place to invest in having seen how Ayala Alabang thrived as a community. Through the years, lots here have appreciated 83 times their original value. If he wanted the same big opportunity, he had to act right away.

So when he was introduced to Ayala Westgrove Heights, the Ayala Land pedigree was just too familiar for him to resist. Like Ayala Alabang, Ayala Westgrove Heights is designed to be a self-contained community. All the necessary amenities are continuously being built around it: schools, hospitals, commercial centers, groceries and churches. Only 15 minutes away from Alabang, it is a sanctuary that does not isolate, but offers a chance to escape at the end of the day.

Inside, lush mango groves, rolling hills and a cool climate afford residents a certain calmness that is hardly available inside the cities. The entire property is master-planned to maintain wide open roads and spaces, with density kept at its most ideal.

Eric believes that this is the wisest land investment he has ever made for himself, but most especially, for his family. He is certain that Ayala Westgrove Heights is destined to be the Next Big Thing. Maybe that's why he sleeps soundly at night. Or maybe, his dreams are simply filled with the scent of fresh mornings spent amidst the hills and groves at Ayala Westgrove Heights.

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MTV Style awards fearless forecast page E2

Alicia Keys coming to Manila page E1

Amazing! caption champions page E2

Geneva Cruz, inside out page C6

Photo: TOTO LABRADOR
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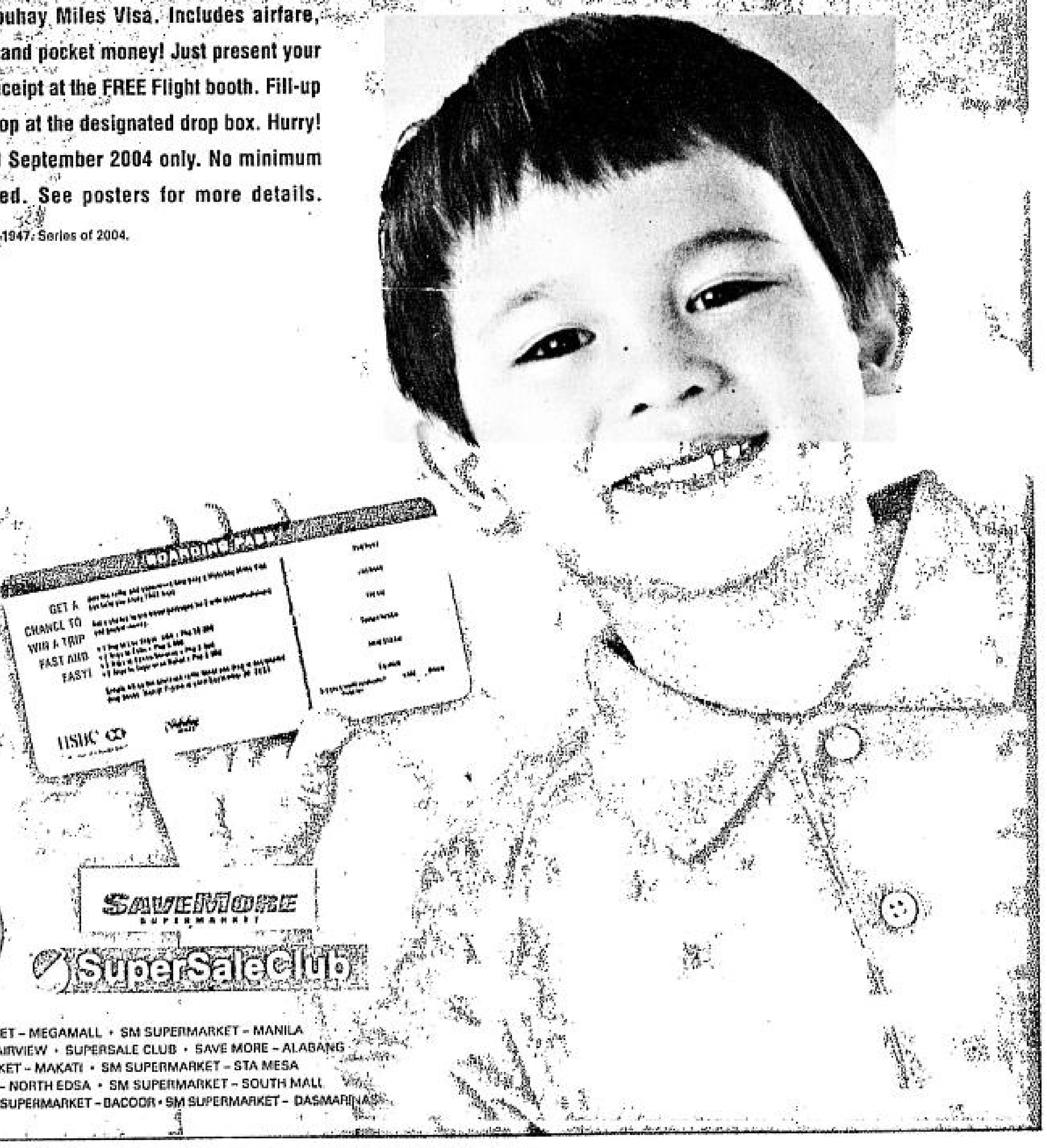
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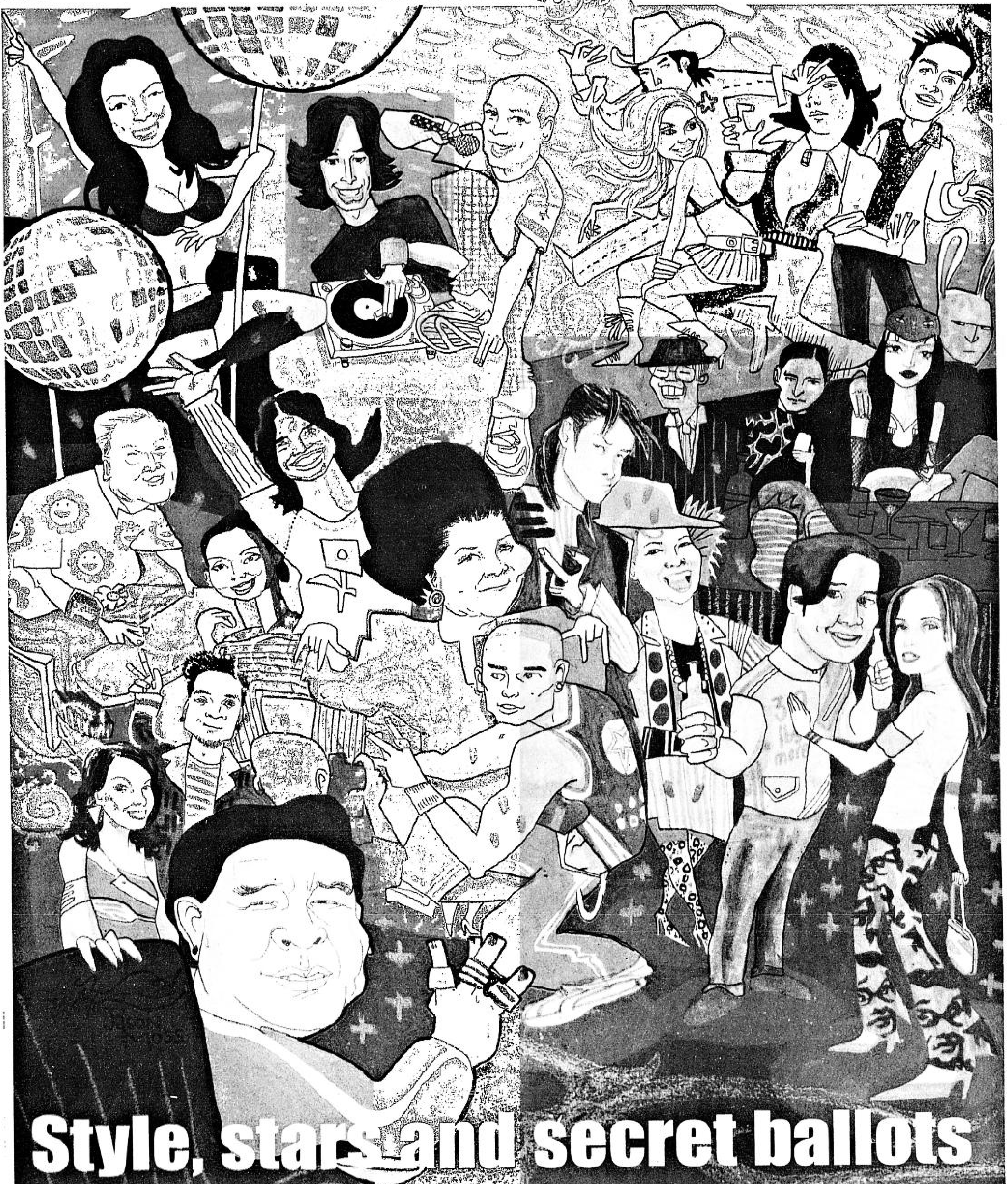


Style, stars and secret ballots

WHO'S GOT STYLE? See if you can spot them all: Marc Abaya, Ariel & Maverick, Kris Aquino, Lito Atienza, Bamboo, Christian Bautista, Rico Blanco, Eddie Gil, Jay-R, Beyoncé Knowles, Cindy Kurleto, Loren Legarda, Borgy Manotoc, Rajo Laurel, Aubrey Miles, Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Tim Yap. Because in an event like the MTV Style Awards where the celeb-spotting potential is high, you just never know who might show up.

Text by Lizette Claudio
Artwork by Jason Moss

IT'S time for Manila's stylish set to channel their inner Derek Zoolanders! On Tuesday, Sept. 28, get ready to break out the Blue Steel and be sure to sport a dazzling "disco-luxe" ensemble for the much-awaited MTV Style Awards at The NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio.

Think of it as Manila high society's version of the May elections, except that the campaigning is done in a more subtle way—there are no posters, jingles, or rallies. However, those who are serious about winning will invariably weave into casual conversions lines that translate to: "You're my friend, so please vote for me."

As someone who admittedly enjoys people-watching, I'm looking forward to the event, not so much to see who will take home the coveted awards or to watch the performances—although as an enlightened insider I can assure you that the show's going to be fab, fab, fab!

Rather, I'm excited to mark my territory on the red carpet—not in front of the photographers but in a less conspicuous area—and get an up-close look at who's with whom, who's wearing what, and who's not wearing enough.

I love it already.

First ever

This is MTV Philippines' first-ever Style Awards, and there are over 20 categories. But already, in pre-event huddles, we have come up with several suggestions for categories that could be included next year. For instance: Favorite Smile, Favorite Hairdo... or how about Best in Formal Wear?

In my make-believe planet where everything is unpredictable and sarcasm rules, Paolo Bediones will step out and announce the winners: German Moreno, German Moreno, and German Moreno.

And because the MTV Style Awards is designed to be unique and quirky but at the same time credible and serious, there's space only for one wildcard in every category. This year—sorry, Kuya Germs—it can't get any wilder than Eddie Gil.

Seriously don't waste your time trying to spot the wildcard—not every category will have one. In fact, there are none in the jury categories. Just this week, I witnessed the coming together of some of the country's most revered industry experts and glossy magazine editors, for the singular purpose of determining which of the equally winnable nominees would take home the jury awards for:

Revolutionary Designer of the Year, Fashion Model of the Year (Male), Fashion Model of the Year (Female), Best in Suit, Red Carpet Style, Most Stylish Bachelor, Most Stylish It Girl, Fashion Photographer of the Year, Fashion Stylist of the Year, Makeup Artist of the Year, Most Stylish Music Video of the Year, and Designer of the Year.

The deliberations took place at The Forts' Palm Beach restaurant (nothing like a voting precinct), and instead of indelible ink on their index fingers, the judges went home with goodies from L'Oreal and MTV.

Guarantee

As though the scene wasn't surreal enough, Tim Yap boldly conducted his own exit polls—a sure sign that this wasn't anything like the May elections. As for the winners, I'll have to leave the predictions to Tim, but this much I can say: you wouldn't want to miss this show.

Voting is still ongoing for the MTV Style Awards People's Choice categories at www.pinoyexchange.com/mtv. Smart and Globe subscribers can also text MTVSTYLE (send to 29768).

The MTV Style Awards will air on MTV Philippines Saturday, Oct. 16 at 3 p.m., with replays on Oct. 17 at 10 p.m., and Oct. 19 at 8 p.m. MTV Philippines is on Channel 41 for free TV or non-cable subscribers, Sky Cable and Home Cable subscribers. It is also available in Metro Cebu and Davao on Channel 29 for free TV or non-cable subscribers. Call your local cable operator for channel designation.

The event is presented by LG Audio, in association with the New Coolmint Listerine PocketPaks, and with the special participation of Fossil Watches, L'Oreal Professionnel, Mazda 3, and Pepsi. Special thanks to the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Manila Bulletin, China Star Restaurant, The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, Nuvo, Dreambar, Bellissima Bar & Restaurant, MTV Ink, Pinoyexchange.com, and official radio stations Magic 89.9, 103.5 K-Lite, 99.5 RT, and Joey @ 92.3.

Head Stands

JASON Moss is an editorial cartoonist, painter, children's book illustrator, and art director. An environmentalist and philanthropist, Moss teaches art at the Ateneo de Manila University apart from being "Pintado," the hand on GMA 7's "Art Angel." His one-man exhibit, "Head Stands," featuring 15 pieces in watercolor and acrylic on paper, are on display until Monday, Sept. 27 at the Crucible Gallery in Artwalk, 4th level, Bldg. A, SM Megamall.

Dress code: 'Disco-luxe'

AT AN awards show like this one, it's all about The Outfit.

Before you take the easy route and bury yourself in bling, take a good look at the disco ball-designed invitation that just landed on your lap.

The theme of the MTV Style Awards is "disco-luxe," so here's a tip: lose the black tie. Sure, you can skip the costume and settle for something chic and sexy. On the other hand, you can be creative and fearless; you can just have fun! If you didn't find the time to ask your favorite designer to come up with a dazzling outfit for you, then think of event as an excuse to travel back in time. Bring back the spirit of Studio 54. This is your chance to put your style sense to good use!

Tip #1: Choose your style icon.

Are you itching to dress up like David Bowie, Diana Ross, John Travolta, Madonna, Mick Jagger, Cher, or Elton John? Go for it! But if you really must channel The Village People, please make sure your possé plays along.

Tip #2: Put some flair to your hair.

Say you've scored some prime seats at the VIP section of the MTV Style Awards. To your right is Imelda Marcos, and to your left is Eddie Gil. Suddenly, your layered hair isn't looking too spectacular. Before you squeeze your head into a disco ball, why don't you flip your hair, try a wig, or better yet, sport an astounding afro?

Tip #3: Get in the mood.

You've got the clothes and you've got the hair. You're facing the mirror, and—admit it—you start feeling the beat and shaking your booty! Leave the cheese factor at home but bring your upbeat attitude. Remember, win or lose, everyone has a reason to party. It's time to raise a toast to Pinoy style!

YOUNG GUNS. Nick Lambino, Greg Martin, Mark Reyes, Jon Herrera, Brent Javier and Rich Herrera

Style files

Lemon-aide

Giselle Segovia

FLASHES of effervescent outfits, killer high heels and sparkling jewelry summon fashion victims and label slaves alike to convene in the country's very first MTV Style Awards. Patterned after the ultra-glamorous VH1 (MTV's sister company, for your 411)/Vogue Fashion Awards, this extravaganza promises the very same caliber of complete red carpet drama. Eight awards under the classification of People's Choice will be presented to stylish icons from diverse and distinguished fields such as fashion, music, film, television, politics, business and sports. Apart from that category where MTV followers can cast their votes, the MTV Style Council has also been created—an exclusive jury of fashion editors, journalists, stylists, designers, photographers and models assisted by MTV to hand out special awards to personalities that have impressed Manila's style circles with their own individual marks.

MTV has a few award-giving affairs; the question is, why style? Why not movies, right? But if you put it in the context of the second question, we should just all be relieved that they won't be awarding any of our local flicks and, no, I would prefer not to elaborate on that. This generation highly favors looks anyway, and personally, I think Filipinos are a pretty fashionable race—for a poor country. Anyway, the fact is what feeds your senses matter, and MTV is forever over the brim with eye-candy.

You have a few days to plan your outfit and if you have any idea of the competition you're up against, I suggest you get on with it.

You have a few days to plan your outfit and if you have any idea of the competition you're up against, I suggest you get on with it.

Saturday, September 25

Err, speaking of eye candy, I don't know much about their music but these guys sure do work out. Hot European boy band Blue is here for a one-night only concert at the Araneta Coliseum. Tickets for "The Best of Blue" are available at Ticketnet (911-5555). As of press time, you can still acquire a couple. These guys are cute.

Sunday, September 26

Ballet Manila's "La Bayadere" is on its last day, if you want to catch the splendid tag team of Lisa Macuja as Nikiya and Maxim Chashchegorov as Solor. The show is at Aliw Theater, CCP complex. Call 525-5967 and 525-1584 for tickets.

Monday, September 27

My gay friends just adore this woman to death. Angela Bofill is headlining Merck's second anniversary bash, along with the regular band "Forte" and, of course, the man behind the name and the establishment, Richard Merck. Definitely, guests will be treated to a musical feast with Bofill's famous ballads "This Time I'll be Sweeter," "Break It to Me Gently" and a gazillion other hits. For more information, call 757-4721, or call or text 0917-7052250.

Tuesday, September 28

It is the night! If you love clothes and shopping, you would love to be at the NBC Tent as the MTV Style Awards kicks off with a loud whoosh of the crimson rug. Watch MTV for details on how to get passes for this style showdown and make sure to cast your votes! Airing of the show will be on Oct. 16 at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, September 29

The art exhibit of the week is Benjamin Cabangis', as he presents his recent collection of abstract paintings. "Imprints" is on its last few days at the Magnet Gallery, Paseo Center cor. Paseo and Sedeno Street, Makati City.

Thursday, September 30

"Eiga Sai 2004," the Japanese Film Festival, is showing films for free! Among the artsy flicks being shown is a motion picture nominated for the Foreign Language category at the 76th Academy Awards, "Twilight Samurai (Tasogare Seibei, 2002)" tells an interesting tale of family and responsibility. Screening is at the CCP Dream Theater. For schedules, please dial 811-6155.

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL. Phoemela Barranda and Tim Yap

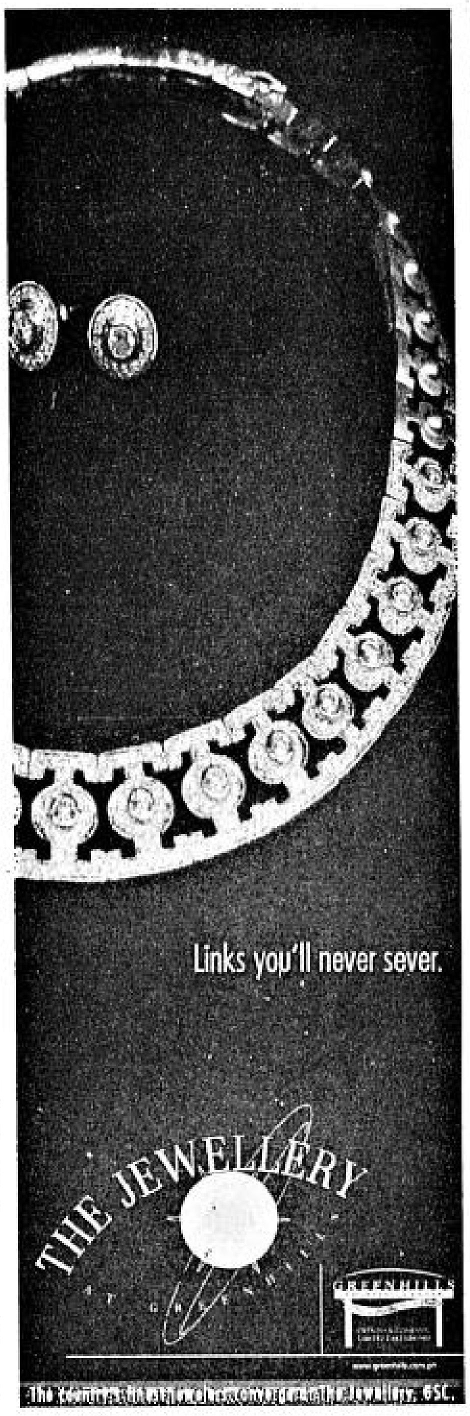
Friday, October 1

Brian Tenorio of Tenorio Manila—designer of beautiful and expensive shoes for men—launches his women's line tonight. Avail of discounts for purchases made during the party. For details, check out www.tenorium.com/october.

The word for the bored:

"Do I listen to pop music because I'm miserable, or am I miserable because I listen to pop music?"

–John Cusack



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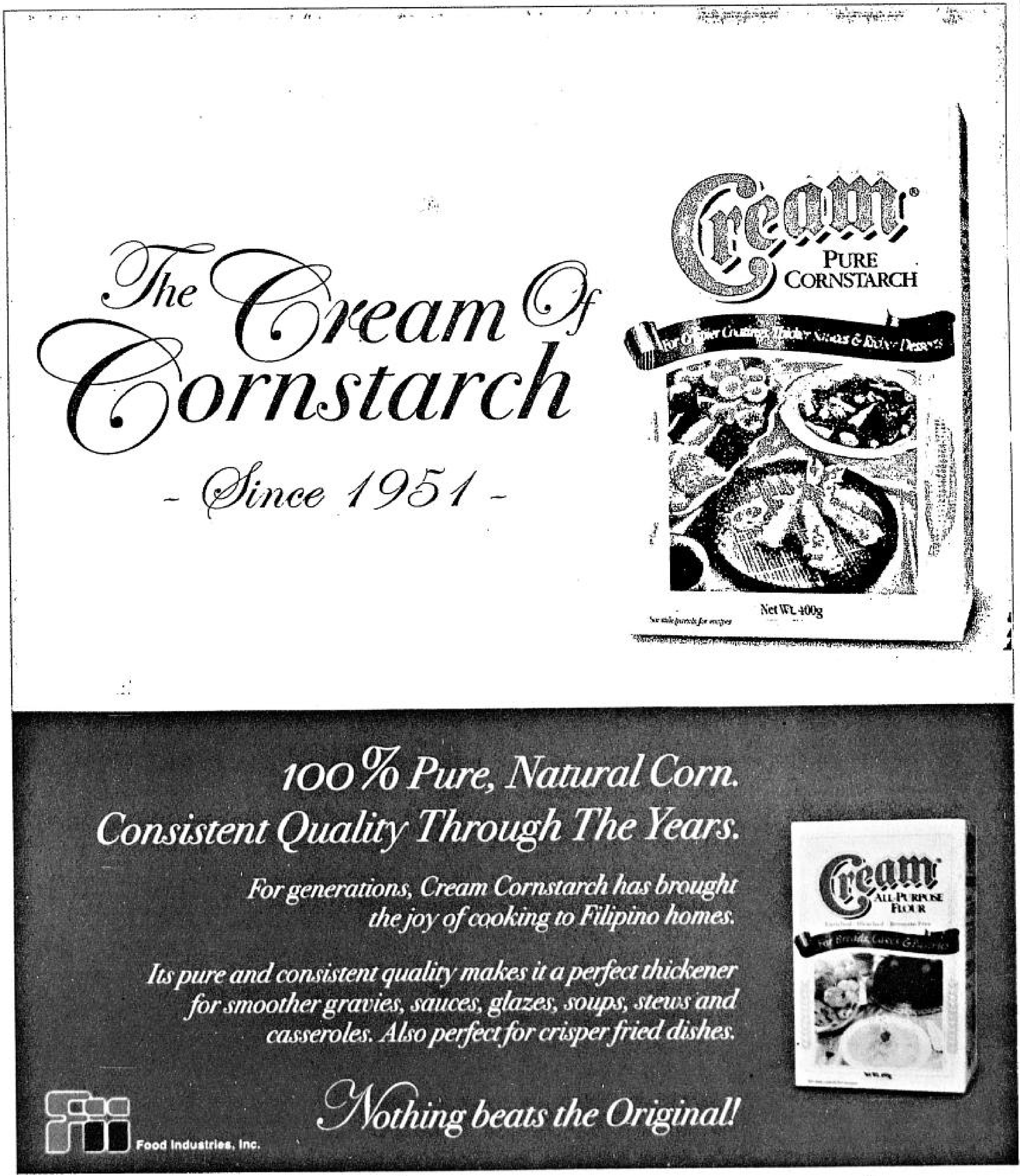

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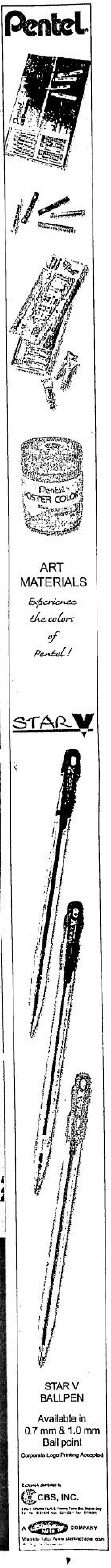

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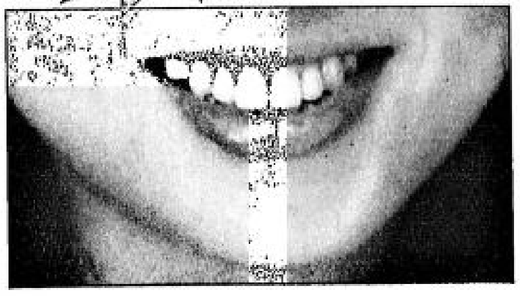
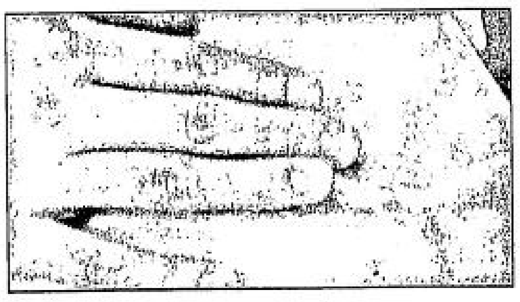
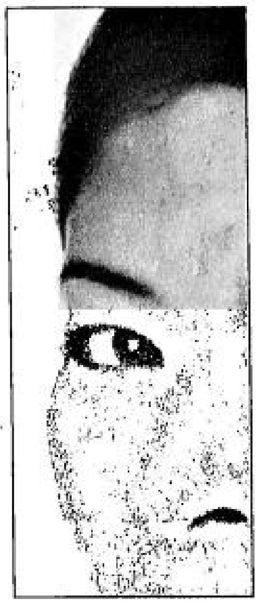
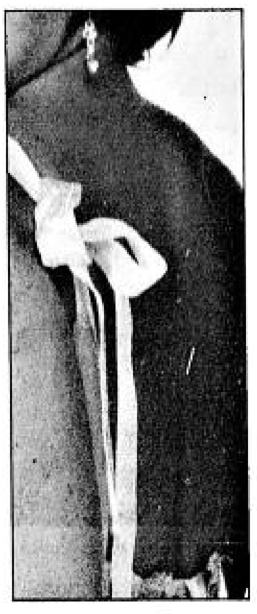





Hi, I'm Rorie Carlos.

I drink my milk when I can find banana-flavored ones.
My most numbing **experience was when** saw the strip turn pink.
I feel empowered when I have an argument with my verbose daughter and actually win.
I would love to share a glass of milk with Dianne Von Furstenburg, Oprah and Carolina Herrera
Being a woman means being able to do a man's job in high heels.
I want to milk the humor out of life.
My milk shake is better than yours, in the eyes of my boyfriend at least.

Hi, I'm Nicolette Bell.

I drink my milk when I'm about to go to bed.
My most exciting **experience was** traveling abroad alone to do some modeling. It was then that I realized many things about myself that I hadn't discovered yet. I was able to work with people of different cultures—while staying proud of my own, I experienced the simplicity and beauty of theirs.
I feel empowered when I accomplish things beyond my expectations.
I would like to share my milk with the missionary sisters that continue the work of Mother Teresa.
Being a woman means you're special.
I want to milk the love out of life
My milkshake is better than your... Juice!

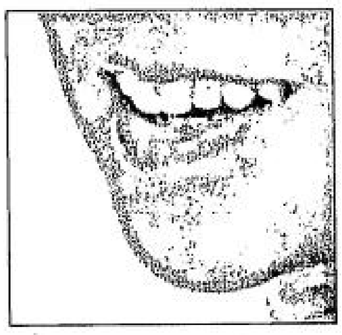
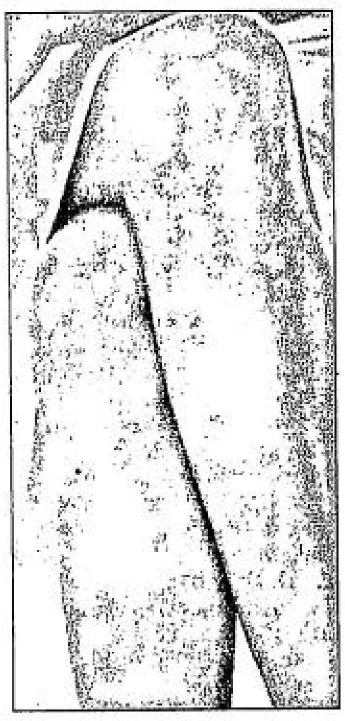
Hi I'm Lyn Ching-Pascual

I drink my milk when I wanna go to the bathroom.
My most wonderful **experience was when** I felt my baby kick for the first time.
I feel empowered when my husband is next to me.
I would love to share a glass of milk with Britney Spears.
Being a woman means being tough and feminine at the same time.
I want to milk the passion **out of** life.
My milkshake is better than yours, coz' mine is breastmilk.

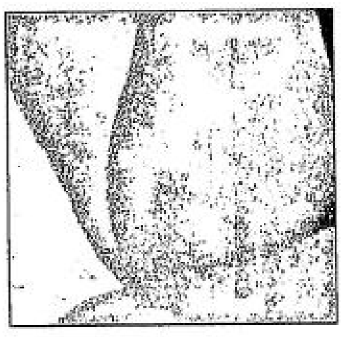
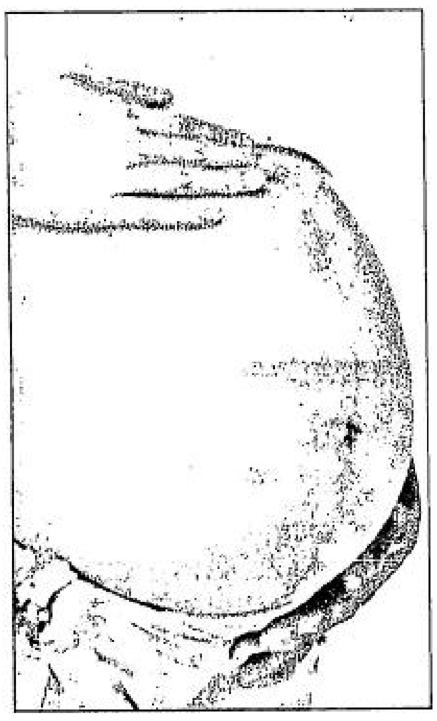
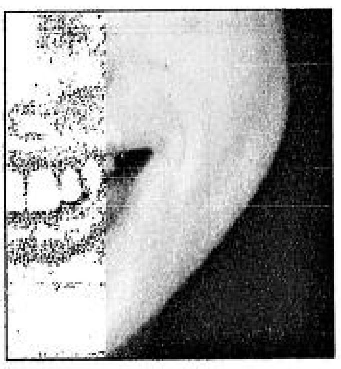
Hi, I'm Tessa Prieto-Valdes

I drink my milk with my cereal in bed.
My most sensuous **experience was when** I have my legs waxed.
I feel empowered when I finish a book—which I never have.
I would love to share a glass of milk with Sting.
Being a woman means you have a license to shop
I want to milk the money **out of** First Quadrant first lady Doyee Tactacan-Tumpalan's bank account
My milk shake is better than yours, *basta* it's better than yours.

Milk maidens

Photos by Paolo Pineda

ASIDE from its calcium rich benefits, Cleopatra was known to bathe herself in tubs of milk.

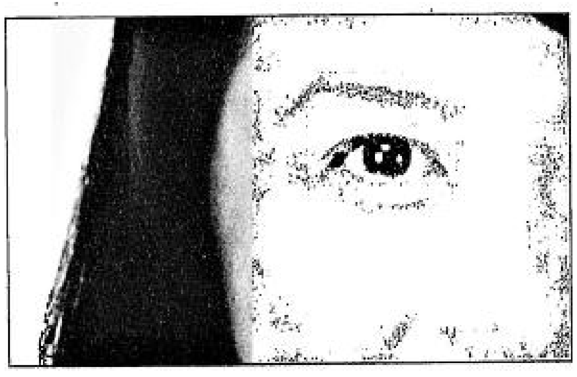
In caring for their babies, mothers everywhere trust the nutritious benefits of milk, not just for their bones, but for their skin as well.

Pampering the baby set has always been part of the Johnson & Johnson's maternal mission. I know a lot of people who still swear by their Johnson's baby cologne, shampoo and powder.

Well, to all of you, and more—here's some milk-citing powder-licious news. J&J is coming out with Johnson's Baby Powder Nourishing with Milk!

We rounded up these Super! ladies who embody milk powder healthy skin in a photo gallery by Paolo Pineda for Johnson & Johnson, to be unveiled this coming Wednesday the 29th at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

Milk bath anyone?



Say hello to Venezia Loran Bektas...

By Ruffa Gutierrez

A STAR is born!
Baby's full name:
Venezia Loran Bektas
Nickname: Venice
Name Origin: Loran is beautiful in Kurdish and Venezia is Italian for Venice, the most romantic city in the world.
Birthday: September 11, 2004
Day of the Week: Saturday
Time: 12:17 p.m.
Place: Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California
Baby's Weight: 5 lbs and 3 oz
Length: 17 3/4 inches
Any hair? A bunch!
Color: dark brown
Skin Color: fair
Eye Color: brown
Baby Looks like: A mini Lorin ... others say she's a replica of her dad ... others say she's a carbon copy of her mom ... I guess we'll only find out when she's older!

RUFFA's ***"bagong panganak"*** **look**

Special medical stuff and classes: During the first trimester of my 2nd pregnancy, I was under strict orders from my obstretician, Dr. Ching Ilao-Oreta to rest so I couldn't really do anything for two months. Once I reached the 2nd trimester, I was back to my usual bubbly self. At the Woman's Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation, I did pre-natal Pilates & yoga, warm water pool exercises, and massage to get rid of the discomforts I felt during this pregnancy. It's not easy being with child 18 months out of 24 months! Whenever people ask me what I've been busy with, I don't have to say a word. Lorin and Venice says it all!

THE AUTHOR **is now a proud mother to her second baby Venezia Loran**

Notes: It's exactly one week since my precious angel, Venice was born. After coming home from the hospital, I've decided to stay home and be a super mom to my two little girls. One so helpless and fragile that sleeps most of the time and another one who's walking, babbling and ready to explore everything she sees or touches. Lorin still has no clue that the doll-like Venice she calls "bee" (for baby) is soon gonna be calling her "Ate."

While I was pregnant, I craved... anything crispy ... fish, chicken, beef, lamb ... dipped into apple-cider vinegar. I also had this huge fascination for dried fish only found in Cebu called danggit. I had to have my cousin Joel del Prado send me a Fed Ex package of danggit & champorado. When my cook in Istanbul asked why the package was so smelly, I just burst out laughing! While in Los Angeles, I loved coffee ice cream with hot fudge, whipped cream, nuts and maraschino cherries. And it had to be ONLY from Haagen Dazs. I would go to the Grove everyday just to eat my Haagen Daz! I know, I know... The pain will start five weeks from now when I'll be huffing and puffing in the gym regretting everything sweet I ate!

Lesson I've learned: Surrender to the unexpected. I have tried to find one mother, just one ... whose birth went exactly according to plan. I have had no success. It seems that at some point you just have to accept the reality that you cannot control every aspect of the journey, whether it be the journey of birth or motherhood.

The evening of Saturday, September 10th, 2004, 9:00 p.m. was a typical night for me. I was at home chatting with my cousin over the phone, laughing at her funny jokes when I felt a gush of fluid running down my legs. Oh my! Was that my water that just broke? It couldn't have been! I quickly hung up with my cousin and called the office of Dr. Cristina Adberg. I had told the doctor on call what had happened and he instructed me to pack my bags and go to the hospital as quickly as possible.

On my way over there with the whole household in tow, the only thing going through my head was—this better be a false alarm. Coz if not, I'm naming my daughter Freedom! It could've been the 13th, the 20th ... did it have to be 9/11 the following day? After a series of tests and an ultrasound, the resident doctor confirmed my greatest fear—I had to stay! Then it hit me. I was giving birth 9/11, three weeks early, without my husband, without my family! I didn't even have a CD to play in the Labor & Delivery Room! I just burst into tears! All I needed was one more week ... just for everyone to be by my side as planned. After calling everyone on my phone book, including my family back home in Manila and my sleepy husband in Turkey ... I just lifted everything up unto the Lord and prayed. Tita Angeli told me "Ruffa, you're not alone ... the angels from heaven are watching over you and the baby in your womb." She was right. Our plans don't always coincide with God's perfect plan for us. What was most important is that little Venice was coming and all I wanted more than anything in the world was for her to be healthy.

What happened after that was an exact repeat performance of last year, when I gave birth to Lorin.

Same doctor, same Pitocin I had to be induced with, even the same corner L&D Room! My family & friends slowly came trickling in with CD's in tow. By this time, I was already 3 cm dilated and 80 percent effaced. We were just waiting for the anesthesiologist to arrive to give me an epidural. As Andrea Bocelli's "The Prayer" was playing in the background, Yilmaz was already arranging the next available flight to Los Angeles.

After the magic of the epidural that got me feeling really comfy, I asked for a Cherry popsicle and tried to go to sleep. Everything that happened after that was a blur.

Labor started at 8:30 a.m., active labor at 9:45 a.m. and then Venice was in my arms at 12:17 p.m.. She was beautiful ... pink, wide-eyed and an amazing, healthy, 5-lb, 3-oz baby. Could this little baby have been inside me just half an hour before?

Yilmaz was on the line with me the whole time in a conference call with my mother-in-law. They were ecstatic and at a lost for words with our miracle named Venice. All he kept saying over & over was "Thank you, God. Thank you, God. Thank you, my sweet wife for giving me two beautiful daughters. I love you."

TODAY ON SUPER! RADIO. Tim Yap talks to Lalaine, Fil-Am star of Lizzie McGuire (she plays Miranda Sanchez) here to shoot episodes of Flipside, her new show on Living Asia, sponsored by Sari-Sari Store. Photo shows Tim, Lalaine and Jinji Buhain of 103.5 Klite. Super! radio airs every Saturday, 11 am till 12 noon.

MELANIE Productions presents

retaso

A dinner fashion show featuring an eclectic mix of collections from the sensual to innovative by Manila's premiere designers and Philippine delegates to the prestigious fashion design competition in Paris like **Avel Bacudio, Alex Pigao James Reyes, Popoy Barba, & Pablo Mendez.** Designers par excellance **Bong Lazo, Loyola Ignacio Armhand Remojo, Frederick Alba, & Gener Gozum** will also present their collections. **Retaso fashion gala** will be held on **September 25, 2004; 7 p.m.** at the **Centennial Ballroom** of the **Manila Hotel,** for the benefit of **CHILDHOPE FOUNDATION** on behalf of the Street Children and the Prayer Convent of Saint Anthony de Padua in Tagaytay City.

Presented by

INQUIRER Young Hearts, Inc. DRAGON internationale Serenity

- **Mirror Magazine**
- **dzRB AM** 'Radyo ng Bayan Punto Perfecto'

Also brought to you in part by:

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Make-up by MAC

Producer: MS. LANIE DIAZ-ALVAREZ • directed by: TOM L. PO

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

GOODWILL BOOKSTORE

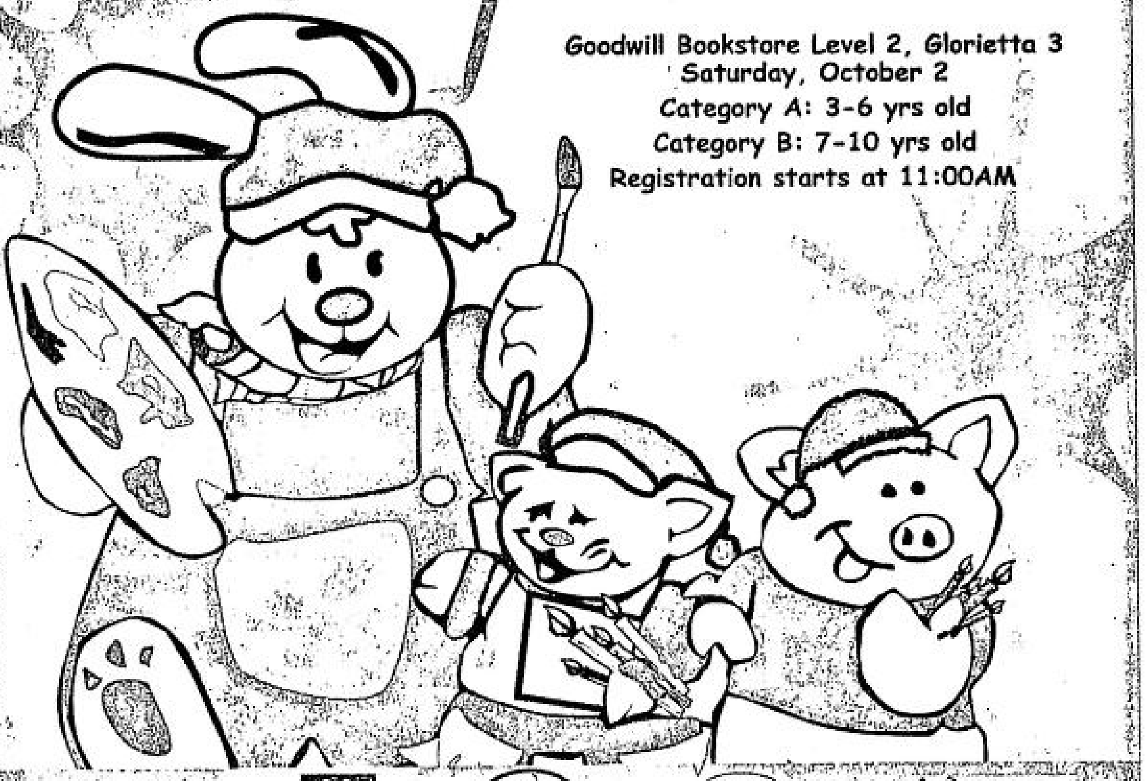
Smart kid The Cellfone for Kids

present

ON-THE-SPOT

CHRISTMAS CARD DRAWING CONTEST 2004

Goodwill Bookstore Level 2, Glorietta 3
Saturday, October 2
Category A: 3-6 yrs old
Category B: 7-10 yrs old
Registration starts at 11:00AM



Junior INQUIRER growers Big & Small Co. Feel the Magic. The Balloon Corner GINBIS

FOR INQUIRIES
SHS Malabon 361-2339 * SHS San Lorenzo 815-3058 * SHS-CAC Shangri-La Plaza 636-1227 * SHS-CAC Forbes Park 840-2632 * SHS Sun Valley 823-1348
SHS-CAC Dela Rosa 810-8997 * SHS-CAC Goodwill Bookstore 867-1125 * SHS-CAC Greenhills 705-1631 * SHS Binondo 247-0862 * SHS The Fort 815-3607

The world's fiercest advertising award show is coming.
CANNESLIONS IN MANILA
September 27 - October 1 • Greenbelt 3 Makati
INQUIRER
making great things possible
Globe HANDYPHONE

A Geneva convention

Tim Yap

SHE grew up before our very eyes singing the anthems of a generation that raved and ranted about heartaches, suffering and sentimentality.

Now we see her gyrating and smokin' hot on noontime television as its resident seductive chanteusse. One thing is for sure, Geneva Cruz is uncontainable.

Her fire stems from within, emanating with her every motion. This is a lady that has been through various stages of pop stardom and yet has emerged victorious with every rebirth.

Super! gave Geneva Cruz the i-D style questionnaire and milked out the substance out of this unstoppable femme.

The thing about fame is that it can make a person better than he was before.

The thing I [illegible]

People might be surprised to know that I can cook Filipino food really well.

The most important thing I've ever learned is... my son is my life.

I wish when I started off I'd been told that patience is a virtue.

The [illegible] thing that ever happened to me was [illegible]

And what this taught me was to listen to the people that love you the most.

The happiest day of my life was when I gave birth to my precious son Heaven.

The secret to happiness is... having a personal relationship with God to achieve peace of mind.

My best [illegible]

My Super! Saturday night consists of playing hoops with my son and kicking it with my friends.

The soundtrack to my life would include Independent Women by Destiny's Child.

If I were invisible for a day I would arrest all the bad people in the world so that the world be crimeless and safe.

The thing that makes me [illegible] people who [illegible]

If I were the most powerful person on earth I would make everyone equal; the poor would have money and the rich would have the same.

The best thing about family is... free goodies!

[illegible]

If money was no option I would... buy all the homeless people homes, give them monthly allowances and give the kids free education.

When I retire I would... buy a house on the beach and have my grandkids over for some fun in the sun.

The world would be a much better place if... people were more loving and giving to each other.

My [illegible]

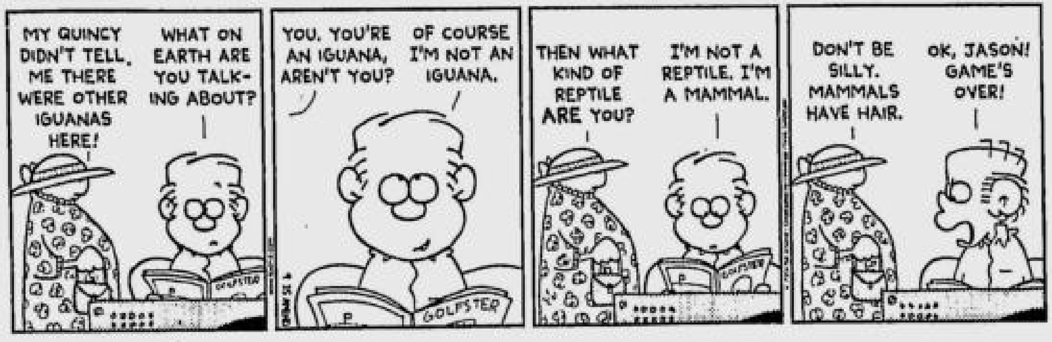
The thing that makes my life worth living is... my son, my man, my family.

My greatest hope for the future is... to conquer the world with my music.

PHOTOGRAPHER: TOTO LABRADOR
STYLIST: ROSARIO HERRERA OF STYLE LAB
MAKEUP ARTIST: BE ABELEDA OF STYLE LAB
HAIR STYLIST: CHER CABUHAT OF PRIVE II SALON & SPA
DRESS BY DENNIS LUSTICO AND RAOUL RAMIREZ
EARRINGS BY HAPPY DAVID [illegible] FIRMA

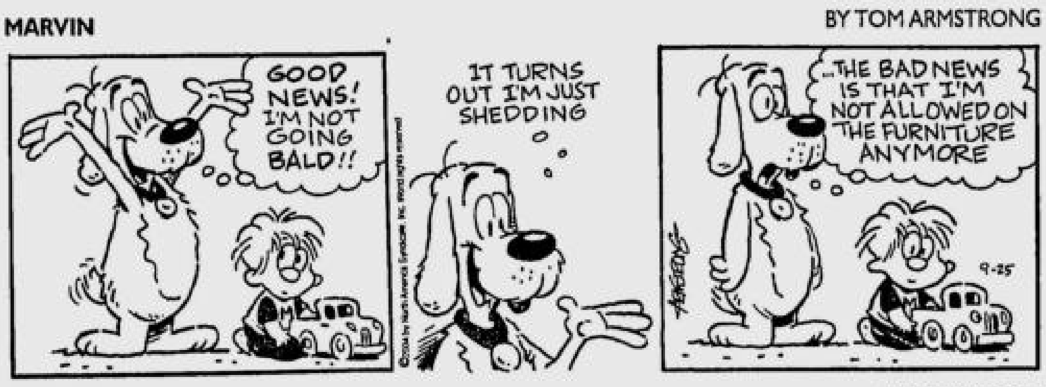
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


MY QUINCY DIDN'T TELL ME THERE WERE OTHER IGUANAS HERE!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU. YOU'RE AN IGUANA, AREN'T YOU?
OF COURSE I'M NOT AN IGUANA.
THEN WHAT KIND OF REPTILE ARE YOU?
I'M NOT A REPTILE. I'M A MAMMAL.
DON'T BE SILLY. MAMMALS HAVE HAIR.
OK, JASON! GAME'S OVER!
GOLFSTER

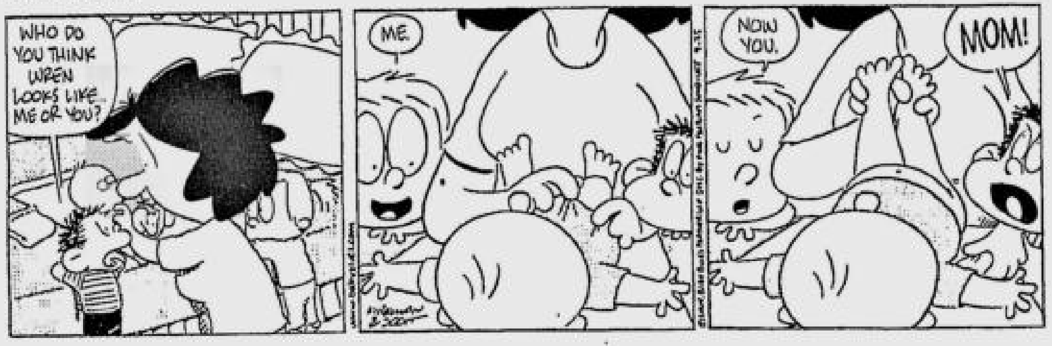
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


GOOD NEWS! I'M NOT GOING BALD!!
IT TURNS OUT I'M JUST SHEDDING
...THE BAD NEWS IS THAT I'M NOT ALLOWED ON THE FURNITURE ANYMORE
9-25

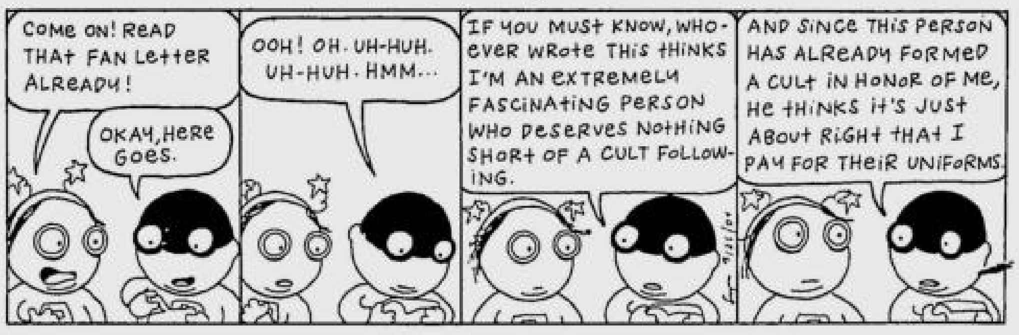
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


WHO DO YOU THINK WREN LOOKS LIKE... ME OR YOU?
ME.
NOW YOU.
MOM!

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


COME ON! READ THAT FAN LETTER ALREADY!
OKAY, HERE GOES.
OOH! OH. UH-HUH. UH-HUH. HMM...
IF YOU MUST KNOW, WHOEVER WROTE THIS THINKS I'M AN EXTREMELY FASCINATING PERSON WHO DESERVES NOTHING SHORT OF A CULT FOLLOWING.
AND SINCE THIS PERSON HAS ALREADY FORMED A CULT IN HONOR OF ME, HE THINKS IT'S JUST ABOUT RIGHT THAT I PAY FOR THEIR UNIFORMS.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're determined, goal-oriented and hardworking. With this combination, you can't lose! On top of this, you're a perfectionist. (But you demand as much of yourself as you do of others.) You like to probe beneath the surface of things. You're curious about people. Work hard this year for rewards that await you in 2005-06.
Birthdate of: Will Smith, actor; Barbara Walters, TV journalist; Heather Locklear, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Another productive day at work! Look around you with a critical gaze and see what needs to be done or repaired in some way.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You might have an opportunity to give young minds some wise advice. You're the perfect person to do so, because you have lots of common sense and a down-to-earth, friendly manner.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): This is the perfect day for home repairs. Fix whatever needs fixing. Organize things, particularly paperwork. You want to address practical issues right now.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You're very practical, sensible and matter-of-fact in your style of speech today. You mean what you say, and you say what you mean. (No ifs, ands or buts.)

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): This is a good day for long-term investments. Whatever you buy today will have a practical, long-term value. You won't spend money frivolously right now. (You also want to save your money for a rainy day.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You're very conscious of flaws in whatever you look at today. But this doesn't bother you. You simply want to do what's necessary to make things work better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You're in the mood to work! You're willing to research and do your homework in order to get something done. Nothing is too much trouble. No detail will be overlooked.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): It will benefit you to listen to the advice of someone older or more experienced today. (Quite possibly, you are the older, more experienced person giving advice to someone else.)

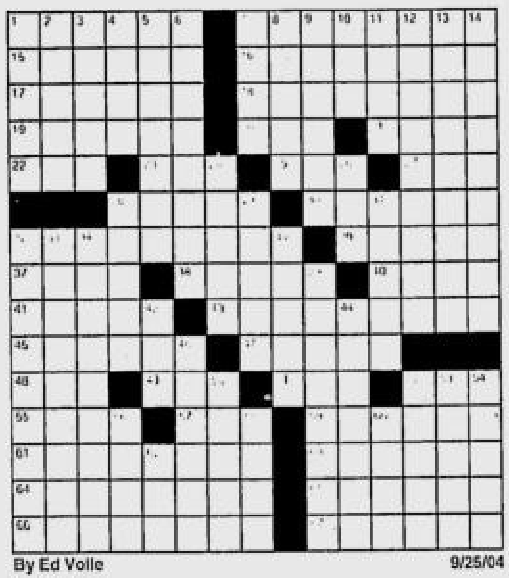
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You respect bosses and authority figures today. People who have more experience than you actually do know more!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): You want to be of service to others. Discussions with clients, customers, members of the public and friends will center on serious, practical matters today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You're interested in long-range plans about travel, publishing, medicine and the law. You want to make your future more secure in these areas. Tomorrow's needs seem more important than those of today.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You'll do everything you can to-day to secure the safety and future of children and loved ones. You want a warm feeling in your tummy about what's down the road.

DAILY CROSSWORD



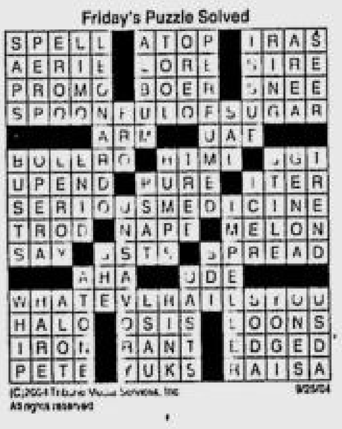
By Ed Voile
Gillette, WY

9/25/04

ACROSS
1 Accident
7 Keeps in existence
15 Financial gain
16 Progressing goalward
17 One who makes amends
18 Conjecturer
19 Skin creams
20 Permit to
21 Opera set in Egypt
22 Dumbstruck state
23 Gear tooth
25 Harbor craft
27 Solder component
28 Tierney and Autry
30 Adage
32 Long-tailed birds
36 Defamation in print
37 Great review
38 Laurel and Mikita
40 Other
41 Roundish shapes
43 Unblemished
45 More nervous
47 Dropped the ball
48 Tatter
49 Place for surfing
51 Down in the dumps
52 Wicked
55 Top cards
57 Bar bill
59 Dairy product
61 Successor of Tiberius
63 Per __ (equally to each person)
64 Musical intervals
65 Beaver State
66 States leaving the Union
67 Guides

DOWN
1 Mazda model
2 Being dragged
3 Doughy pastry
4 Use a whetstone
5 Punishes with arbitrary penalties
6 Assumed identities
7 Earth
8 Not fulfilled
9 Social position
10 Label
11 "O don fatale" or "Vissi d arte," e.g.
12 Like tinder
13 Privation
14 Stiles
24 Fellas
26 Guy's date
28 Some Isle of Man residents
29 Situation
31 Concede
32 Draws out
33 Be cautious!
34 Of the gospels
35 Growl
39 Mediterranean winds
42 Stitch together
44 Deadpan comic Bob
46 Adjust piano again
50 Harvest machine
52 Light grayish brown
53 Mary of "The Maltese Falcon"
54 James and Dizzy
56 Location
58 Deep voice
60 Dueling sword
62 Deity

Friday's Puzzle Solved



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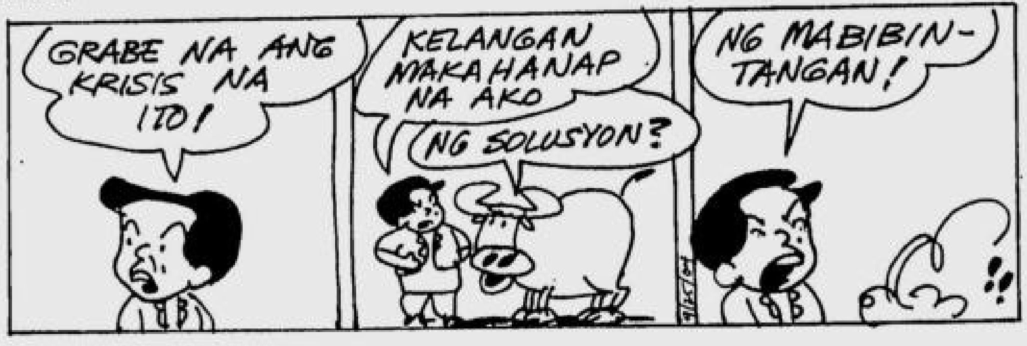
9/25/04

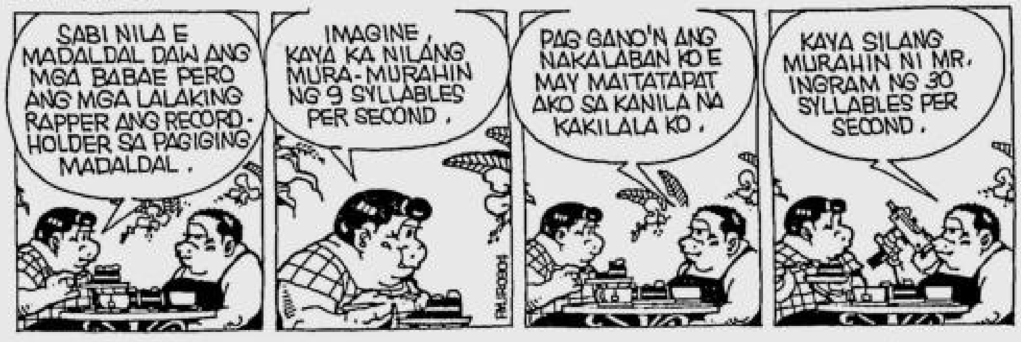
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


GRABE NA ANG KRISIS NA ITO!
KELANGAN MAKAHANAP NA AKO NG SOLUSYON?
NG MABIBINTANGAN!

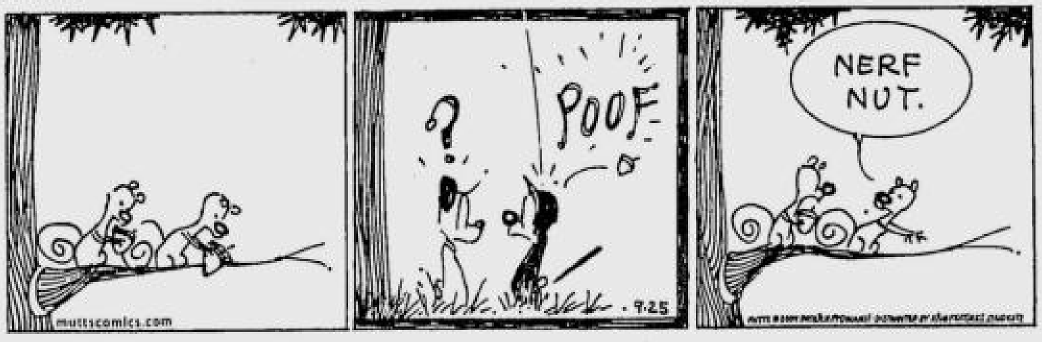
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


SABI NILA E MADALDAL DAW ANG MGA BABAE PERO ANG MGA LALAKING RAPPER ANG RECORD-HOLDER SA PAGIGING MADALDAL.
IMAGINE, KAYA KA NILANG MURA-MURAHIN NG 9 SYLLABLES PER SECOND.
PAG GANO'N ANG NAKALABAN KO E MAY MAITATAPAT AKO SA KANILA NA KAKILALA KO.
KAYA SILANG MURAHIN NI MR. INGRAM NG 30 SYLLABLES PER SECOND.

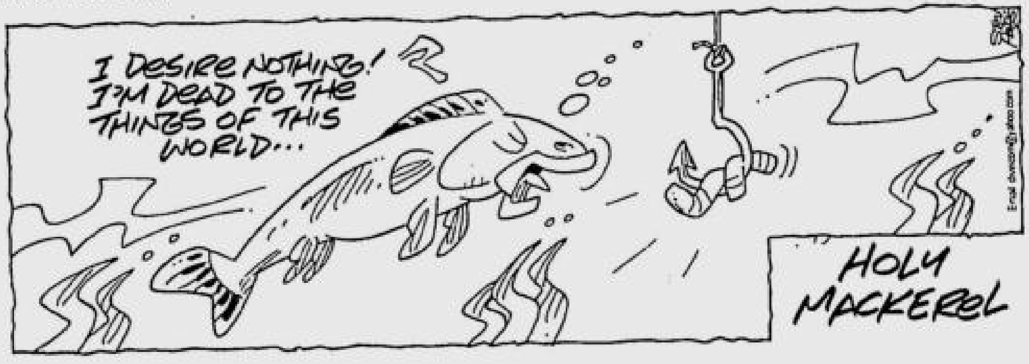
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


?
POOF
NERF NUT.
muttscomics.com
9.25

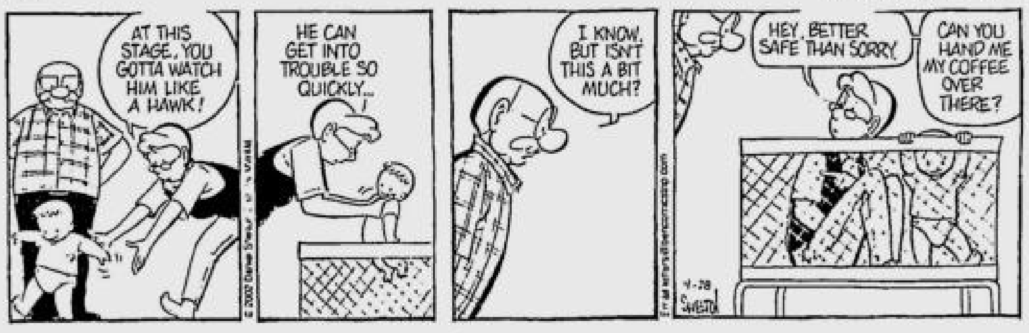
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


I DESIRE NOTHING! I'M DEAD TO THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD...
HOLY MACKEREL

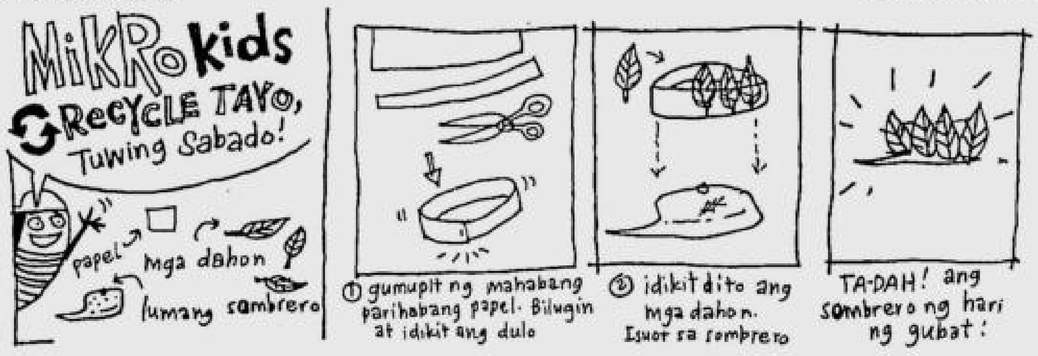
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


AT THIS STAGE, YOU GOTTA WATCH HIM LIKE A HAWK!
HE CAN GET INTO TROUBLE SO QUICKLY...
I KNOW, BUT ISN'T THIS A BIT MUCH?
HEY, BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.
CAN YOU HAND ME MY COFFEE OVER THERE?

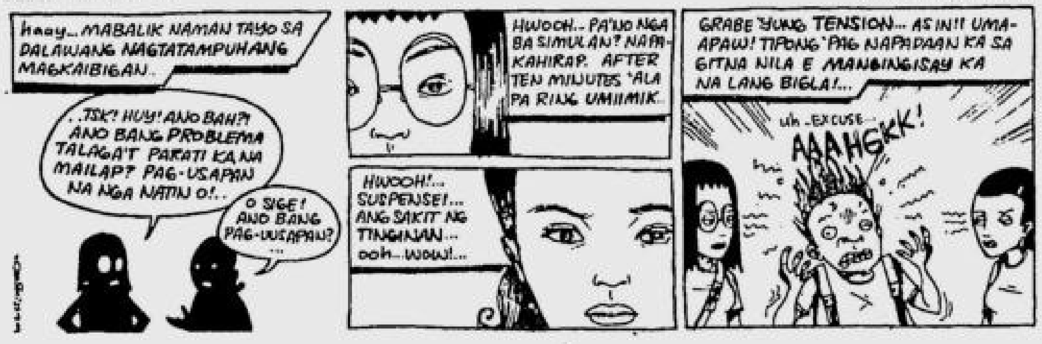
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MiKRoKids
RECYCLE TAYO, Tuwing Sabado!
papel
mga dahon
lumang sombrero
① gumupit ng mahabang parihabang papel. Bilugin at idikit ang dulo
② idikit dito ang mga dahon. Isuot sa sombrero
TA-DAH! ang sombrero ng hari ng gubat!

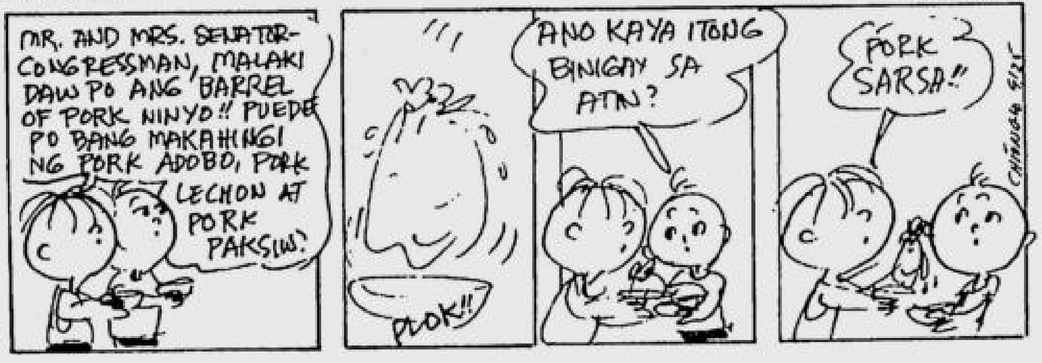
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


haay... MABALIK NAMAN TAYO SA DALAWANG NAGTATAMPUHANG MAGKAIBIGAN...
..TSK! HUY! ANO BAH?! ANO BANG PROBLEMA TALAGA'T PARATI KA NA MAILAP? PAG-USAPAN NA NGA NATIN O!..
O SIGE! ANO BANG PAG-UUSAPAN?
HWOOH.. PA'NO NGA BA SIMULAN? NAPAKAHIRAP. AFTER TEN MINUTES 'ALA PA RING UMIIMIK..
HWOOH!... SUSPENSE!... ANG SAKIT NG TINGINAN... ooh...wow!...
GRABE 'YUNG TENSION... AS IN!! UMAAPAW! TIPONG 'PAG NAPADAAN KA SA GITNA NILA E MANGINGISAY KA NA LANG BIGLA!...
uh..EXCUSE...
AAAHGKK!

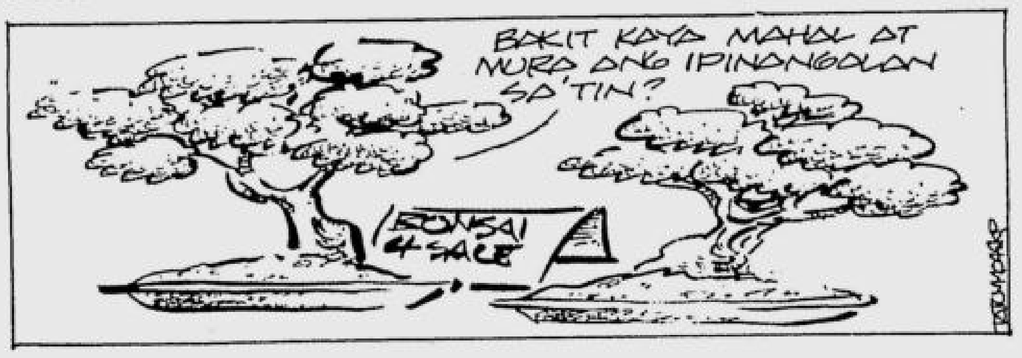
LOVEKNOTS

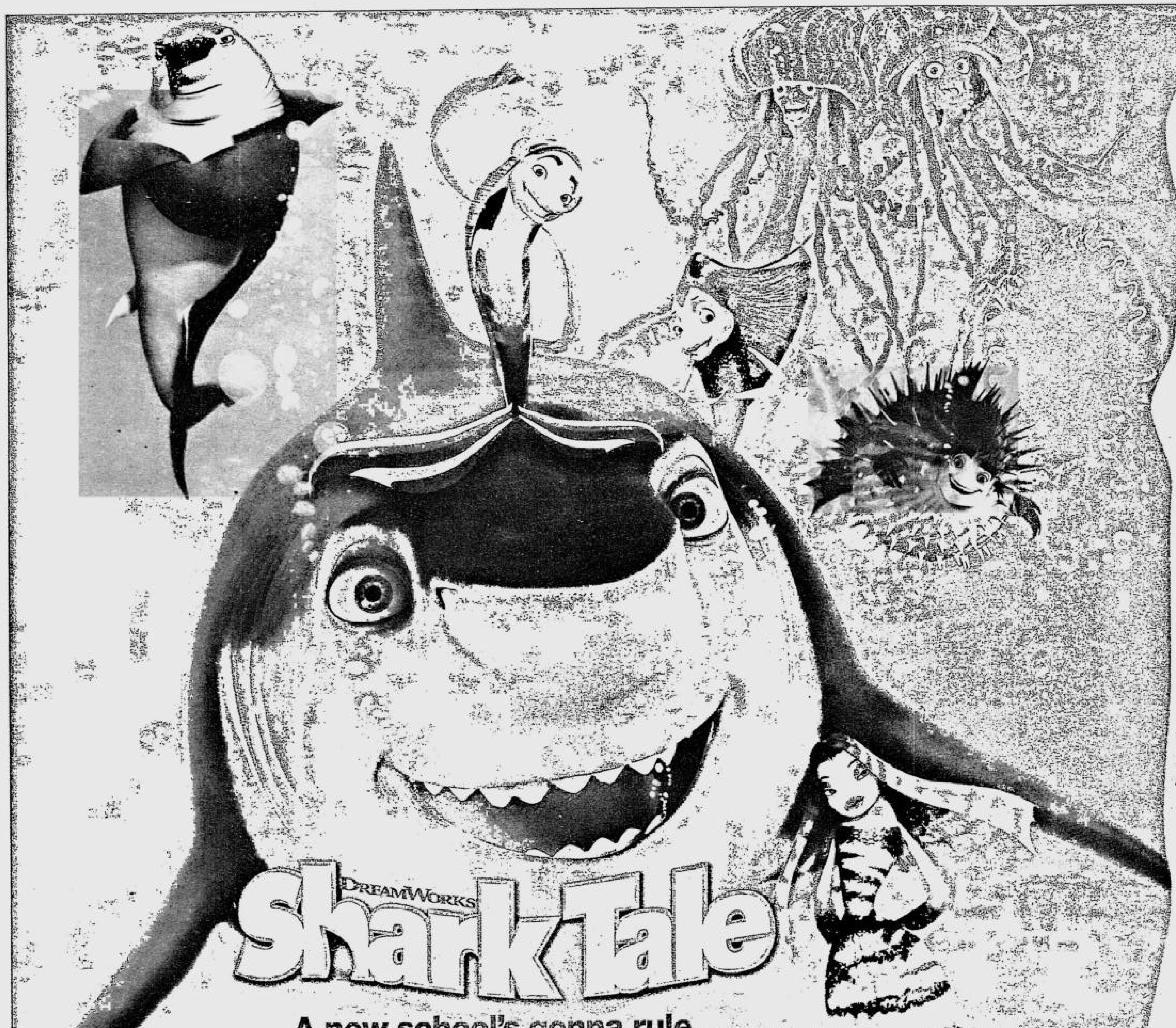
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


MR. AND MRS. SENATOR-CONGRESSMAN, MALAKI DAW PO ANG BARREL OF PORK NINYO!! PUEDE PO BANG MAKAHINGI NG PORK ADOBO, PORK LECHON AT PORK PAKSIW?
PLOK!!
ANO KAYA ITONG BINIGAY SA ATIN?
PORK SARSA!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


BAKIT KAYA MAHAL AT MURA ANG IPINANGALAN SA'TIN?
BONSAI 4 SALE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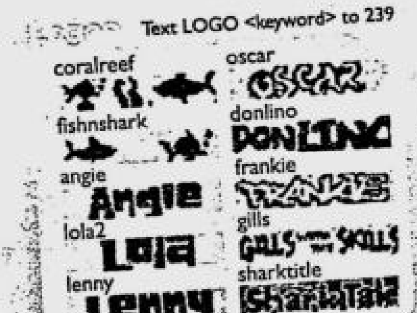
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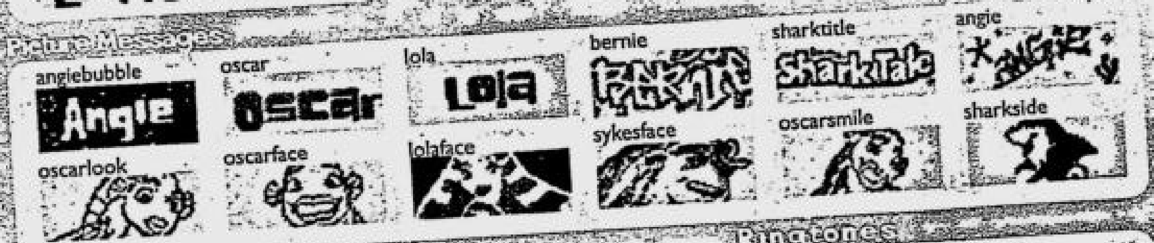
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Themes

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Ringtones

Title	Keyword
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Can't Wait	CantWait
Gold Digger	GoldDigger
We Went As Far As We Felt Like Going	Went
Sweet Kind of Life	Sweet Life

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The culture of being nice

Age against the machine

Is being too nice nasty?

Gino de la Paz

IN case you haven't been paying attention, daytime do-gooder and self-made investment guru Oprah Winfrey recently gave away Pontiac sedans to jumpstart her talk show's 19th season. That was a helluva lot of cars—276 G6s to be exact—one for each dazed housewife in the studio audience. For the most part, the audience members were selected because they or someone in their family wrote in to say they needed to replace their rusty old bricks with sweet new rides. And boy, did they hit the jackpot that day. As if that wasn't enough, Oprah also handed out loot like it ain't no *thang*: a four-year scholarship, a $10,000 wardrobe and makeover, furniture and gadgets up the butt, and a $130,000 check to other down-and-out folks. Who said talk was cheap?

When I first heard about the insane deed/act/bonanza on the Internet, I put myself in the audience's shoes and immediately had visions of monkeys screaming for mercy at a looted Baghdad zoo. I thought, "Talk about blowing serious dough! This Oprah is one broad who lives to BRING IT ON!" Really, the Queen of Talk has my respect for at least giving cash to people who could use it the most. However, the hopelessly cynical International Marketing major in me had a different and slightly more dollar-driven reaction.

Too much credit has been assigned to Miss Winfrey when, in fact, Pontiac—a division of General Motors, or GM—donated the cars, which retail for $28,000 apiece. "A little idea grew into a big idea," Pontiac's Mary Henige told The Associated Press shortly after. Before they knew it, GM snagged an appearance on "Oprah," considered the crown jewel of advertising. In the process, they correspondingly took an $8 million hit, roughly the cost of 50 ads on primetime television. Nonetheless, GM's savvy version of product placement was able to thwart a TiVo attack by the show's 30 million viewers, majority of whom use the new technology to skip annoying TV commercials when recording their favorite programs. And why not? Oprah getting *crizunked* and yelling "Everybody gets a car!" half a dozen times while the audience "screamed, cried, and hugged each other" sounds like pretty darn good advertising to me. Any brand would die for celebrity kudos but this kind of unbridled joy is PR in its purest form.

"Awww...But still, that's so *nice*," I hear you gush. Who's to say it wasn't? Art Spinella, president of CNW Marketing Research Inc. in Bandon, Oregon, believes GM's move was brilliant. "It's a marketing stunt, but it was a good one," he said. "It's something nobody has really done before." The skeptics among us may think this "stunt" diminishes Oprah's credibility, realizing that she didn't give up her personal stash and may have done everything for crass publicity reasons. "It's like...Ew," as some shrill online detractors so eloquently put it. The mind-boggling amount of press this episode has generated for both Oprah and GM has got me thinking as well. When corporate machines fulfill wishes on a remarkably grand scale, what value should we place on their concept of generosity? Further, in an age of blatant self-promotion, talent search applause meters, and reality TV high dra-

THE CULTURE/ D3

MANAGING DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION

High blood pressure, otherwise known as **"Hypertension"** is a smooth assassin. According to the American Heart Association people with high blood pressure are three times more likely to develop coronary heart disease, six times more likely to develop congestive heart failure, and seven times more likely to have a stroke. If all that wasn't bad enough it also contributes to kidney failure and Atherosclerosis or fatty deposits in arteries.

High blood pressure means that your heart works harder at any given moment to supply your body with the necessary amount of blood. This can lead to the heart enlarging to work effectively, and translates to less scope for the heart to respond if you find yourself in a situation where your body is under a tremendous amount of stress. This often results to heart attacks and strokes. Making everything worse is the fact that you may be blissfully ignorant that there is problem at all until it is too late, because there are no noticeable outward signs that you have blood pressure.

The situation becomes far more complicated for Diabetics. Diabetes is a disease in which the body fails to produce or properly utilize insulin. The hormone is vital in converting sugar, starches, and other food into energy needed for normal daily living.

Most people with Diabetes are exposed to risk factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol, which increase one's predisposition to heart disease and stroke. And since more than 65% of those afflicted with Diabetes succumb to heart disease or stroke, managing blood pressure and cholesterol level, is a matter which Diabetics must take seriously.

By controlling your diet, increasing your physical activity through exercise, and consulting your physician regularly, the risk for heart attack and stroke can be greatly reduced, whether you are Diabetic or not. Studies reveal that the much-ignored Guava can also be very helpful in your battle against cardiovascular problems. Its fruit contains Amino Acids which help prevent Atherosclerosis or blockage of blood vessels while its leaves boast of Potassium which helps maintain normal blood pressure and proper function of the heart. In addition, the Guava has been proven to contain twice the amount of Vitamin C found in citrus fruits.

Soon to be released in the market is a daily supplement maintenance beverage with Guava derivatives as its primary ingredient. The product is the result of a combination of natural herbs processed using modern methods. The drinks aims to reduce Hypertension cases. Other components of the beverage include the ***Ampalaya fruit*** which is clinically proven to lower cholesterol and blood sugar levels, thus prevents the aggravation of Diabetes. ***Ku Ting Tea*** which contains a lot of Cathecin and multivitamins aid in producing anti-oxidant properties to fight cancer. It also can be relied on to lower the cholesterol levels and reduce the opportunity for blood vessel blocking and heart attack. Another ingredient, ***To Tea***, keeps cholesterol levels down and relaxes the body. ***Millet Board*** with vitamin C function as stimulant and diuretic to treat liver weakness and Hypertension.

This drink is the perfect supplement to a healthy lifestyle and may just be the key in letting you live each day the way you want it to!

[illegible] REJ Diamond Pharmaceuticals, Inc

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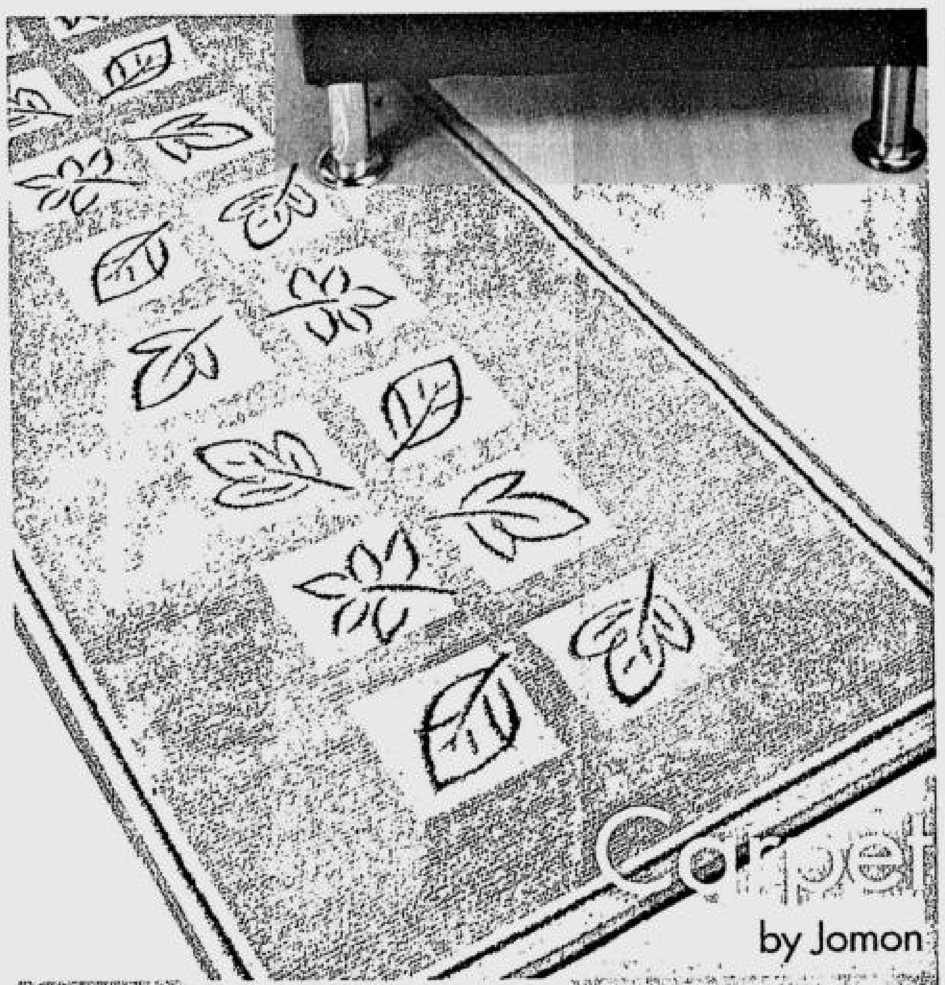

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It's a special greeting with P10 load so your buddy can tell you how much she misses your warm smile! SMART PasaLoad Greet'N Load is complete – your special greeting will be sent along with an MMS image, pic message, logo or ringtone that fully expresses how you feel.

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1 Type <friend's cellphone number> <category keyword>
2 Send to 232

CATEGORY	KEYWORD	SAMPLE PIC
Anniversary	ANNIV	
Birthday	BDAY	
Congratulations	CONGRATS	
Happiness	HAPPY	
Hello	HELLO	
Love	LOVE	
Miss You	MISS	
Lonely	SAD	
Sorry	SORRY	

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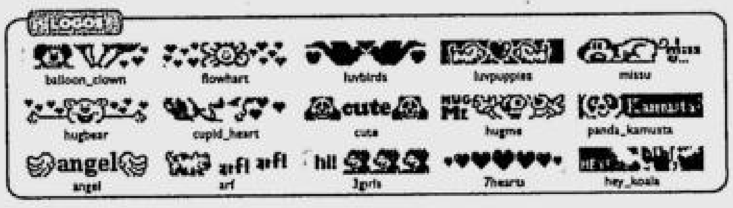
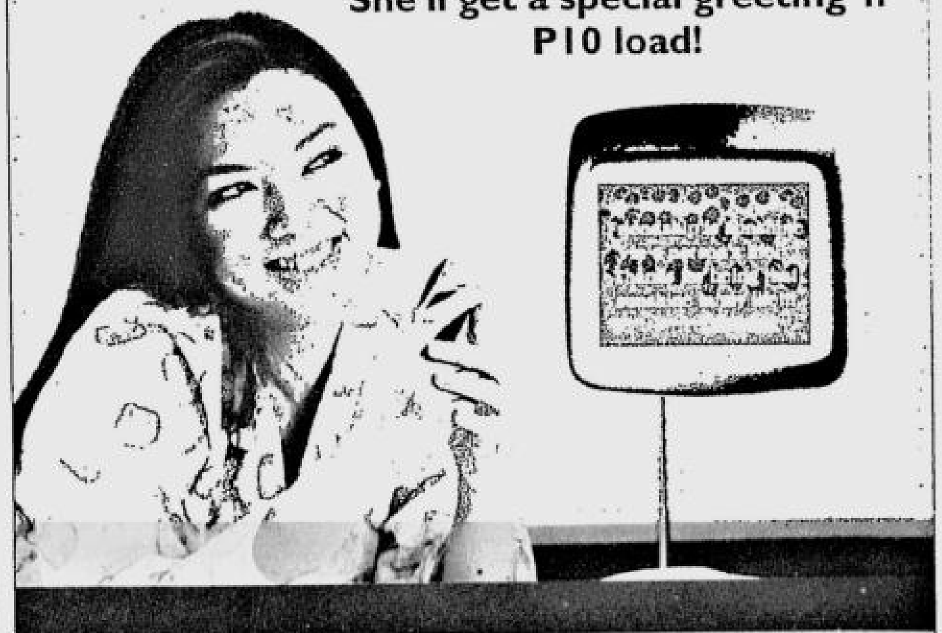
bird
misskita
loved
heller
clown
loved2
winner
missu
alien_peace
happybday
friends4
hogme
fal4u
superkid
friends
luvcow



RINGTONES

TITLE	MONOTONE KEYWORD	POLYTONE KEYWORD
Ocho Ocho - Pamela Remix	88pamela2	88pamela6
Kahit Di Sabihin	disabihin2	disabihin6
This Guy's In Love With You Pare	disguysinluv2	disguysinluv6
Kailan Kaya	klankaya2	klankaya6
Machonurin	machonurin2	machonurin6
Pagbigyang Muli	pagbigyan2	pagbigyan6
Pamela	pamela2	pamela6
Panaginip Lang Kaya	panaginip2	panaginip6
Rainbow	rainbow2	rainbow6
Star Circle Quest Theme	starcircle2	starcircle6
Sunod Sa Galaw	sumusunod2	sumusunod6
Tanging Ina	tangingina2	tangingina6

She'll get a special greeting 'n P10 load!



To give Greet 'N Load

1 Type <friend's cellphone number> <PIC message keyword> or <MMS keyword> or <LOGO keyword> or <RINGTONE keyword>
2 Send to 232
3 Your recipient will receive a confirmation message

Applicable download and PasaLoad rates apply. Service available to prepaid-to-prepaid users and postpaid-to-prepaid users only. Prepaid subscribers with new SIM need to load their account first to be able to send PasaLoad Greet 'N Load.

For questions, comments or concerns, you may call SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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Infinity, SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Addict Mobile, Talk 'N Text

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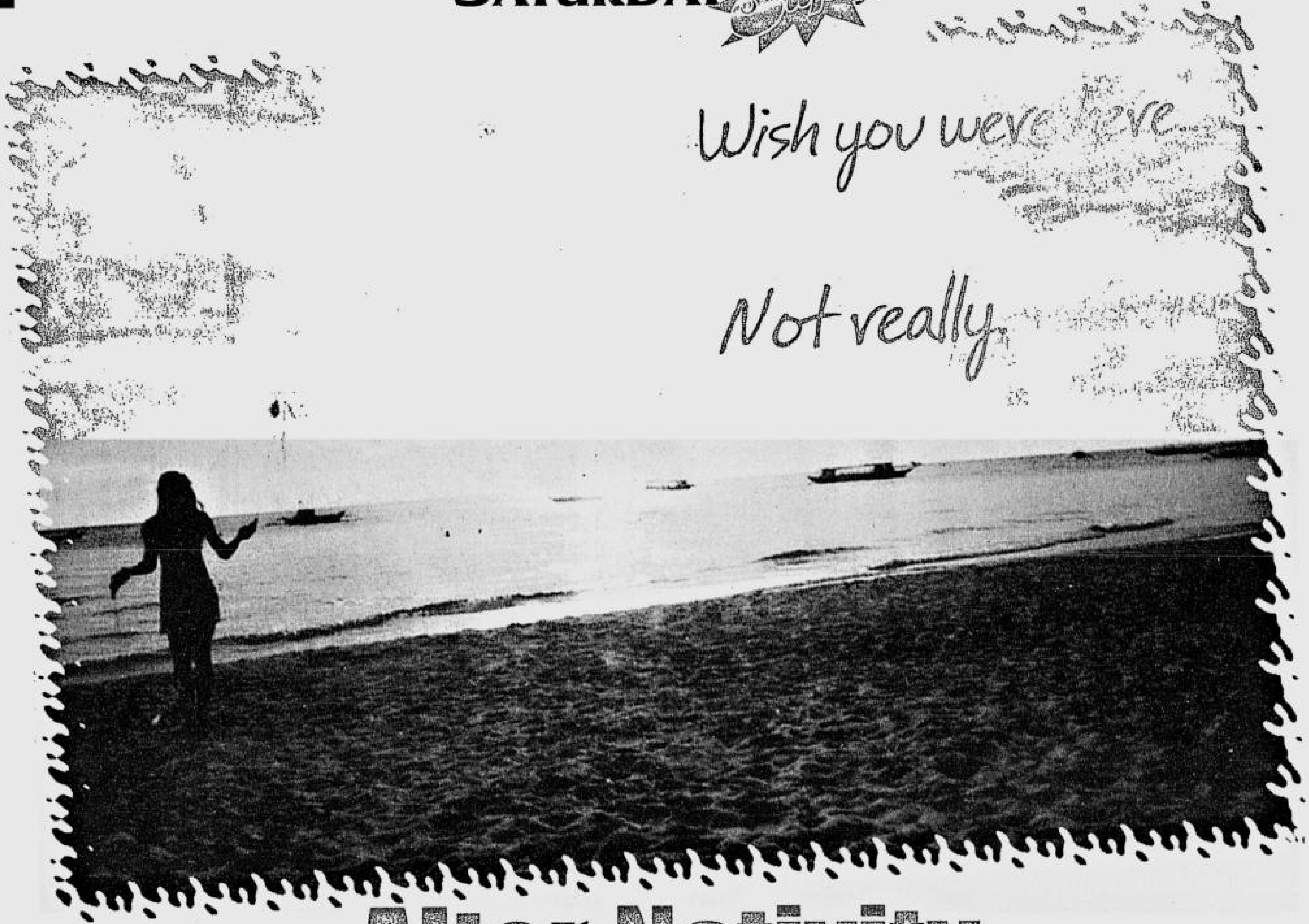

Alter Nativity

OUT THE WINDOW

Tals Diaz

Reggae, rhum and rumination during the off-season

THERE was a mind-blowing party last Saturday night which I truly doubt will ever appear on any society page. No invites were sent out, no one planned to be there, nobody was dressed to the nines and it did not happen in a place that was tagged as "it" or the "in" place to be. It all just happened in a tiny little bohemian bar, on a tiny little island among the seven thousand that speckle our corner of the world. The words of Bob Marley, accompanied by the tribal beats of ethnic drums, simply called out to the off-season travelers and locals to come together and celebrate life even for but a passing moment. At some point after midnight, the rains came down to bless the barefooted guests of different skin colors, ages and varying professions intimated only by the lengths of their hair. Surrounded by color-dyed lamps and tribal paintings hung on nipa walls, all forgot their inhibitions as they were intoxicated with Marley's sacred mandate, "One love, one heart, let's get together and feel all right." A first-time visitor to the island whispered to me, "right now, this is the happiest place in the world."

It is precisely because of moments like those, sanctioned by the gods of causality, that always lure me to the famous isle during the off-season. The off-season call is a strange quirk that I can't resist. I am never tempted to go to Boracay during the maddening high times, and I particularly avoid it during the Holy Week peak, when hordes of city party animals transform the island into, well, an animalistic city party. Perhaps it's a reverse form of snobbery, but my reason is far more rudimentary than rude—when you constantly bump into people from Manila who can't help but bring along the Manila stress and *tsismis*, I feel like I'm back in the middle of EDSA traffic.

Being in Boracay during the off-season, however, gives me the chance to talk to the local boatmen, jam with the musicians, listen to the kids building sand castles and drink rhum with the handicraft vendors who, for me, have infinitely more interesting topics to share. The pastiche of their stories are so far removed from the usual "who's going out with whom" or "who's sleeping with whom" or "I can't stand so-and-so." Instead, I am treated to refreshing conversations about the change of the *habagat* to the *amihan* seasons, or unusual anecdotes about the Beatles, or about how the moonrise that coincided with the sunset that day. Really, who can ask for more?

This time around, I brought along some old college pals as well as my little multicultural posse from Brazil, Mexico and England, who until that time had not ventured out of Manila since they arrived some months back. In truth, they had been burned by some of the urbanalities that inevitably happen in many big cities of the world. But what many seem to forget that Manila is not the Philippines, just as many big cities never truly convey the spirit of a country. As such, you can just imagine how it was like seeing them step into the clear turquoise waters of Boracay for the first time in their lives, as if they had veritably stepped through the looking glass and into another world.

Alter Native

I've always described Boracay as magical, for I believe there is really something about the island that transforms people. And when you go there with first-timers from other countries, you end up seeing things that you usually take for granted in a different light. Europeans rave about the hot weather and the warm waters, the South Americans become entranced by the constellations that they don't see from their own hemisphere, Far East Asians become honorary citizens of our coral reefs. It's enough to kill the cynicism that creeps up to scourge you and makes you want to leave the country "for a better life," which has sadly become the mantra of the Filipino diaspora.

But what really is "a better life" anyway? It seems to be what we all want these days, especially when you're constantly plagued with perplexing headlines, worries about your job, your direction in life or worse, non-direction in your love life. Of all the people on the island who had something to say concerning that so-called "better life," was this one person named Cha Cha, a long-haired local who made a living selling his handmade native jewelry. Upon animatedly answering questions about his local wares displayed on a long bamboo table, one of my Brazilians told him he had the best job in the world. All he could do was laugh and say, "I make my jewelry, I sell my paintings and I have my boat. I don't have a lot of money but I'm very happy. That was my choice."

A choice. An alternative. Perhaps that is what people are really looking for, even for a just a while—something different, a change of perspective, a detour from the mainstream flow of things in order to get in touch with what is real once more. Indeed, there is always a need to switch a few things "off" once in a while to make you feel alive again, to be "off-centered" if you will!

Email the author at: inca_orange@yahoo.com

Big Hearts Wanted

HAVE you been devoting your time to making the world a better place? Have you been pledging your hours to good causes? Do you know someone dedicated to service?

Join "Change the World Through Volunteerism: The Search for the Best Student Volunteer."

We are looking for the college students with a passion for volunteerism. You can nominate yourself or nominate someone else you know.

Send us a photo copy of the nominee's school ID, photos of the nominee and answers to this questionnaire:

Name:
Age:
School:
Course:

Tell us about your volunteer experience (projects, organizations):

Which cause are you most passionate about? (e.g. Poverty, environment, etc.)

Why should you be chosen as the Best Student Volunteer?

Entries may be sent to "Change the World Through Volunteerism: The Search for the Best Student Volunteer," Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Don Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City or e-mailed at changetheworld@inquirer.com.ph.

Deadline of submission is on Oct. 4, 12 noon. All nominees will automatically receive a gift pack from Hands On Manila and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

We will be selecting 20 nominees who will each get a gift pack from Bench and be featured in the pages of 2BU!

On Oct. 24, Hands On Manila and the Philippine Daily Inquirer will have a whole-day affair at the NBC Tent called "VIP: Volunteer in Person" in celebration of the third anniversary of Hands On Manila.

This event, which is sponsored by EON, Inc., Bench/Her-Bench, kiddieparty.com, TBWA\Santiago Mangada Puno and Themeworks, will be a fun full-day celebration of the selfless act of volunteerism. At this event, the top 20 nominees will be escorted down the ramp by UAAP players, models and celebrities in a fashion show directed by Ariel Lozada.

The three best volunteers will also be announced at this event, along with the winner of the People's Choice category.

Winners will receive plaques and exciting prizes.

All these, because your big heart and generous spirit deserve to be in the spotlight.

Drive jive

GOODYEAR Philippines officially launched its newest Ultra High Performance tire, the Goodyear Eagle F1 GSD3, on August 7 at the Le Pavillon, Roxas Boulevard in Manila. Rainy weather dampened no one's spirit as more than 1,200 guests participated in the day's activities, which included tire testing, product demonstrations and the introduction of a theme song to accompany the Eagle F1's advertising campaign.

Using various BMW vehicles mounted with Eagle F1 GSD 3 tires, the Philippine's most celebrated race car drivers, including JP Tuason, Angelo Baretto, Kookie Ramirez, Mike Tuason, Pia Boren, Jeff Borja, Alex Morales and Eric Camarillo, took VIP guests and the media around the simulated test track. Through a combination of braking, slalom and aquaplaning exercises, the drivers proved the Eagle F1's superb performance capability.

Demonstrations of Goodyear's technological superiority did not stop with the launch of the Eagle F1, according to Dave Morin, President and Managing Director of Goodyear Philippines. Following the test drives, Goodyear offered a demonstration of its run-flat technology. Outfitting a Mini Cooper with Goodyear EMT (Extended Mobility Technology) tires, Morin said that Goodyear proved its tires perform at equal measures, always safe, always reliable. EMT tires can run without air for 300 kilometers, which Morin said is about the distance to from Manila to La Union.

Activities stretched into the evening, concluding with the unveiling of Goodyear's newest theme song. Finalists battled it out in the last leg of Goodyear's first ever songwriting competition, performing their Goodyear-inspired original composition before an elite panel of judges, including Morin. By the end of the night, the band Sunflower Day Camp emerged as the winner with its entry "Goodyear All The Way." The band received P50,000 in cash, plus free airtime on popular radio stations in Metro Manila. "Goodyear All The Way" will serve as the official musical bend for the Goodyear Eagle F1 GSD3's media campaign.

"The day couldn't have been better," said Morin. "Product leadership and brand strength that was demonstrated at this event are among many reasons to believe in our company, and evidence that Goodyear will remain "One Revolution Ahead."

Shop, dine and party at Eastwood!

HAVE you ever imagined, maybe in your wildest dreams, a place where every delectable dish and every great piece of clothing is on sale? If you are among those who crave the biggest and best bargains, wake up and fantasize no more: Eastwood City is making your dreams come true with a City-Wide Sale that started yesterday and winds up Sept. 30.

All retail shops are giving up to 70 percent discounts, and restaurants are taking 10 percent off your meal tabs. On top of this, for every P2,000 purchase, shoppers get a raffle coupon and a chance to win three trips for two to Boracay. This treat is made possible with the cooperation of the Department of Tourism.

Outside of these grand prizes, the Philippine Tour Operators Association and Philippine Travel Agencies Association are offering big discounts on packages to various other vacation spots in the country. Grab a brochure from their booths and get an overview of the current hottest destinations.

Or marvel at the Philippines' Best Diving Spots and Beaches via an exhibit made possible with generous help from the Philippine Commission on Sports Scuba Diving. Scoot over, now.

The culture of being nice

From page D1

matics, can a person still be genuinely nice?

Behind the feel-good factor

It seems that the paranoia surrounding niceness is justified. To begin with, nice can be such a vague word. Let's consult our buddy Mr. Webster. On the one hand, the adjective's dictionary definition is generally positive, running from "exhibiting courtesy and politeness" or "done with delicacy and skill," to "socially or conventionally correct" or "pleasant, pleasing or agreeable in nature or appearance." On the other hand, nice also has its, uhm, not-so-nice connotation—as in "excessively fastidious and easily disgusted." I often hear the word "nice" used by people under age eight to describe everything from a cartoon or an imaginary friend, to a Hilary Duff credit card. This is due to the fact that their parents—for lack of hipness, bless them—taught them to say so instead of more current synonyms like "great," "awesome," or even "*crunk*." (It wouldn't be far-fetched, for example, to hear an average Filipino mom say something along the lines of "Jun-jun, *anak*, taste the *durian*; it's nice..." and so on.) But on another level, nice can also describe people who are agreeable beyond reason.

"Conspicuous Compassion," a study conducted by UK thinktank Civitas last February, argues that people who wear ribbons to show empathy with worthy causes, and mourn in public for celebrities they have never met, are part of a growing culture of "ostentatious caring which is about feeling good, not doing good." It says the trend towards public outpourings of compassion reveals not how altruistic society has become, but how selfish. Sounds twisted? Author Patrick West calls the condition "mourning sickness" and alleges that this culture of ostentatious compassion is only concerned with "projecting one's ego, and informing others what a deeply caring individual you are." Mr. West concludes his report with a suggestion: instead of "piling up damp teddies and rotting flowers to show how nice they are," people should try to do some "unostentatious good."

Using the United States' 9/11 tragedy and UK teenager Milly Dowler's murder as models, "Conspicuous Compassion" sparked heated debates in countless online message boards and resurrected images of Princess Diana's memorial service across England. Yet the most crucial effect the report had was this observation: being nice, and the entire culture that comes with it, is just a façade used by people who are more interested in what they're seen to do, say, or feel, rather than what they actually do, say, or feel. Now I'm not saying that people don't genuinely care anymore. It's simply that there is always the option of grieving, sympathizing, or giving that is quiet, discreet and just as effective.

Questioning the motive

After such catastrophes as 9/11, the war in Iraq, and the recent school massacre in Russia, the world is existing in post-emotional times when it seems that most citizens are all cried-out and numb at the idea of empathizing once again. Worse, even young people have become wary of crocodile tears and manufactured emotion. How many times have we seen government officials getting caught up in looking angelic by unnecessarily plastering their names on every project they touch? Or charity being used as mere photo ops, presumably so the cameras can catch one's "generosity" in all its oversized-paycheck glory? Whatever happened to the words "no strings attached?"

IS TALK CHEAP? For GM and Oprah, it costs $8 million

> Or the Oprah bonanza: When corporate machines fulfill wishes on a remarkably grand scale, what value should we place on their concept of generosity?

One's motives determine when an act of niceness becomes naughty or downright nasty. Admittedly, celebrities are in a greater position of influence. Angelina Jolie, for instance, is carrying on with the late Princess Diana's mission to rid Cambodia of land mines. In those cases, there's little point in keeping one's feelings private, as it's about raising awareness. But by the same token, these big shots are also in for greater scrutiny. Does anyone recall the once-immaculate Martha Stewart or the ex-media darling Michael Jackson? Both were notably Machiavellian and showed how polite and neighborly they were in public and, at the same time, how sick and corrupt they could be behind closed doors. The eternal optimist in me would like to suppose that those two were plain irregularities in the scheme of the universe. But again, the devil on my shoulder questions the sincerity of people such as Oprah. In that case, one last quote from "Conspicuous Compassion" should guide me along. Patrick West warns: "Most of all, next time you profess that you care about something, consider your motives and the consequences of your words and actions. Sometimes the only person you really care about is you." Amen to that.

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VIVA LA VIRGEN!

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF PEÑAFRANCIA

The Feast of Our Lady of Peñafrancia is the biggest and most popular religious festival in the country. Close to six million Bicolanos pay homage to their INA, as the Madonna is fondly called, each year at Naga City.

A Traslacion Procession brings the image of the Blessed Mother from her shrine in the Basilica to the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral where devotees hold daily novenas. Many have been made believers through the miraculous powers of Our Lady of Peñafrancia and pay homage to Her each year for all favors granted in Her name. Her journey to the Cathedral marks the start of a weeklong festival that has been ongoing for years, turning this local devotion to into a living tradition.

On the lighter side, civic and military parades, sports competitions, agro-industrial fairs, cultural shows, and beauty pageants allow for a more celebratory atmosphere. Merry-making is found across the city as SMART Buddy took to the streets to make this event even more FIESTAmazing.

Highlights of the festival are the processions that begin and end the feast. The Fluvial Procession brings the image of Our Lady back to her shrine. In this return trip, she is placed on a multi-colored pagoda atop a barge and carried down the Naga River with boats escorting her from all sides. Not once is she left alone as her faithful *voyodores* stand by her side, protecting her from the sea of people that surrounds her. They wave white pieces of cloth and shout "Viva La Virgen" as her image is returned to its home in the Basilica. For believers, the rain that gently falls at the start of each procession is a true sign of the mysteries of their faith.

On the opposite side of town, SMART Buddy offers a different kind of thrill. There, the FIESTAmazing Fair is set-up to provide guests with fun games and activities. All of which are offered free of charge for SMART subscribers who accomplish the required download activities and non-SMART subscribers whenever they SIM swap to the power-packed SMART Buddy Super SIM 3. And what is a local Filipino fiesta without music? At Magsaysay Avenue the SMART Buddy CELEBRE LA VIDA Street Party featuring U-TURN and MYMP attracted a huge crowd of almost two thousand people who were eager to dance the night away!

For more FIESTAmazing celebrations, watch out as SMART Buddy tours the country in support of our local Filipino fiestas. No one gives us NationWidest coverage like SMART Buddy can!

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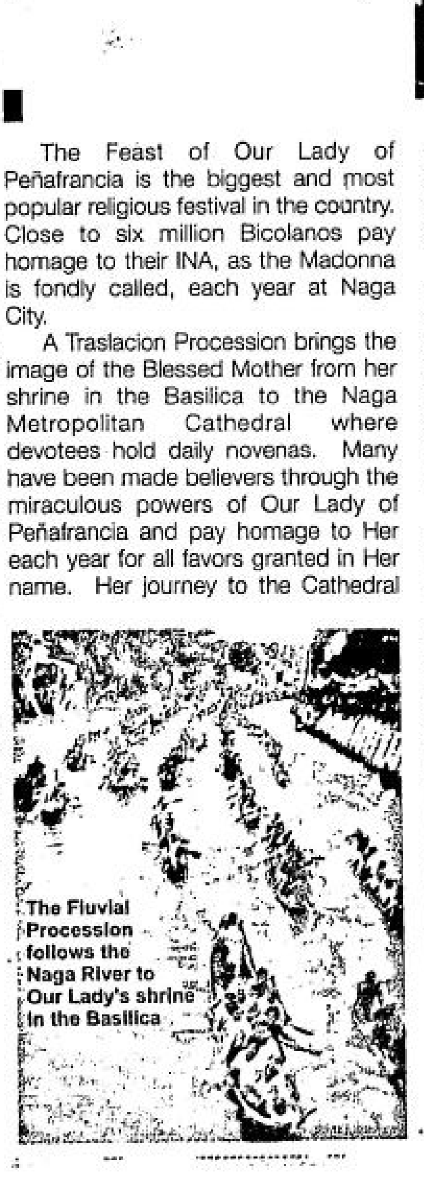
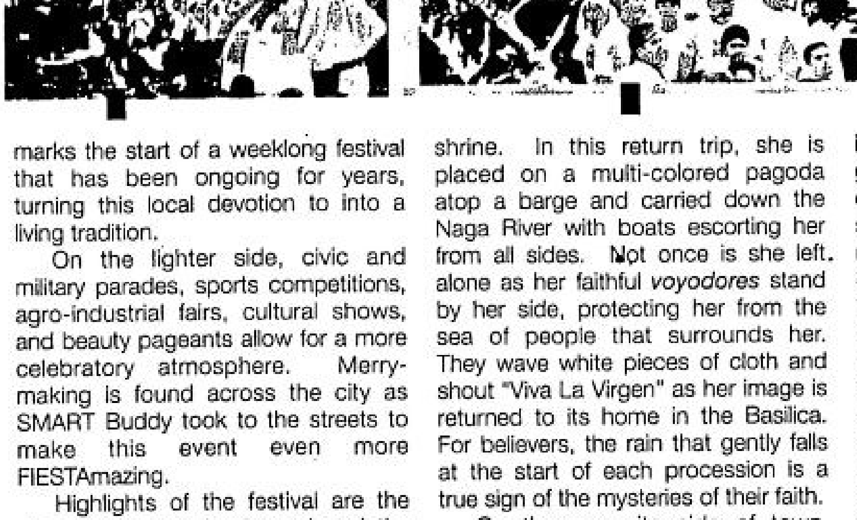
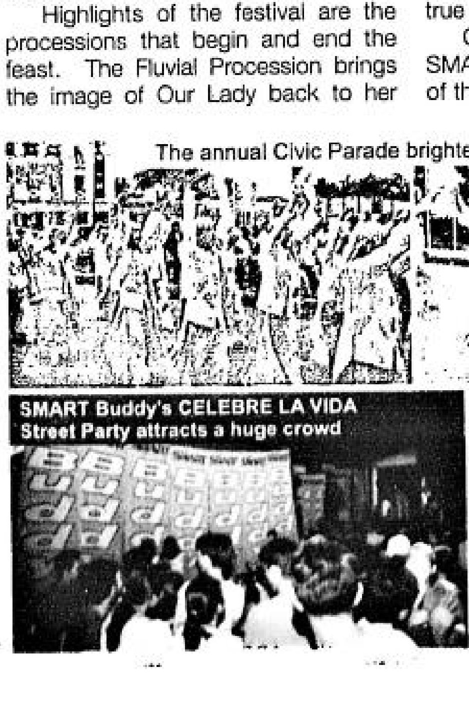
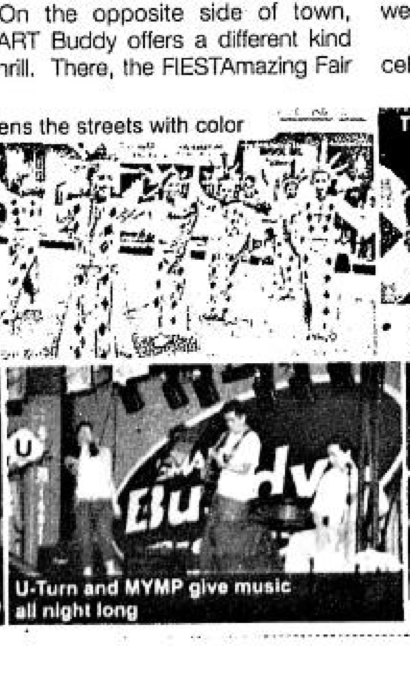
The holy image of Our Lady of Peñafrancia


The Fluvial Procession follows the Naga River to Our Lady's shrine in the Basilica


The annual Civic Parade brightens the streets with color

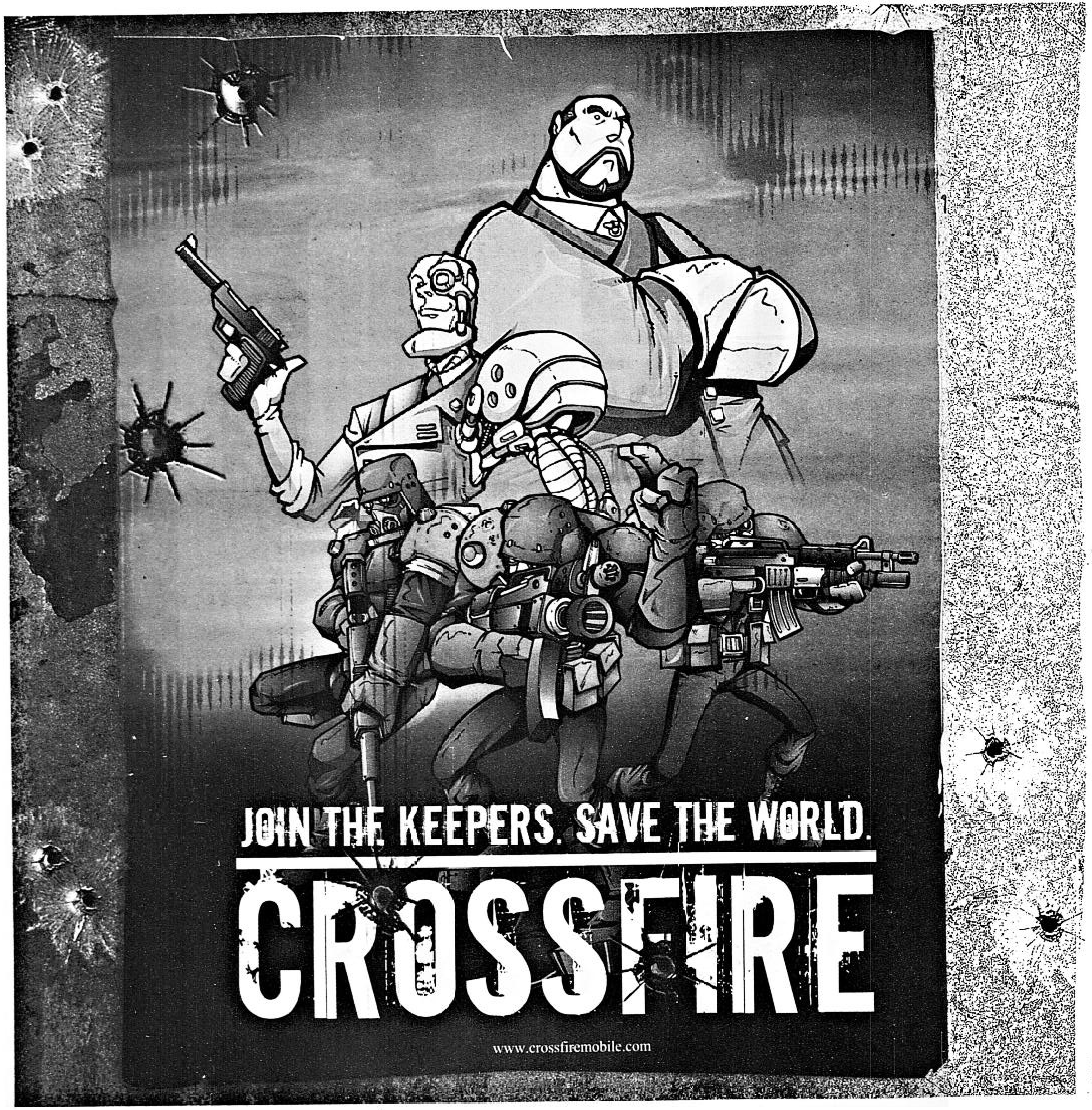
The w[illegible] of M[illegible]icolandia 2[illegible]


SMART Buddy's CELEBRE LA VIDA Street Party attracts a huge crowd


U-Turn and MYMP give music all night long

Some henn[illegible] for everyone

SMART Buddy's FIESTAmazing Fair for more fiesta thrills



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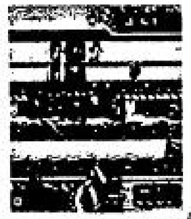
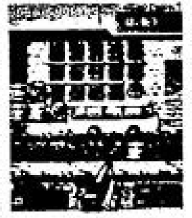

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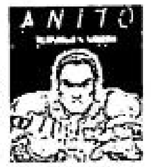
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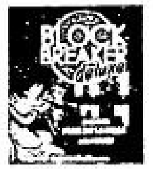
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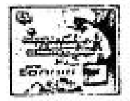
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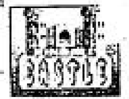
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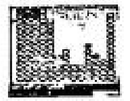
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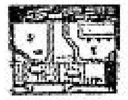
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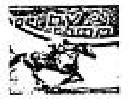
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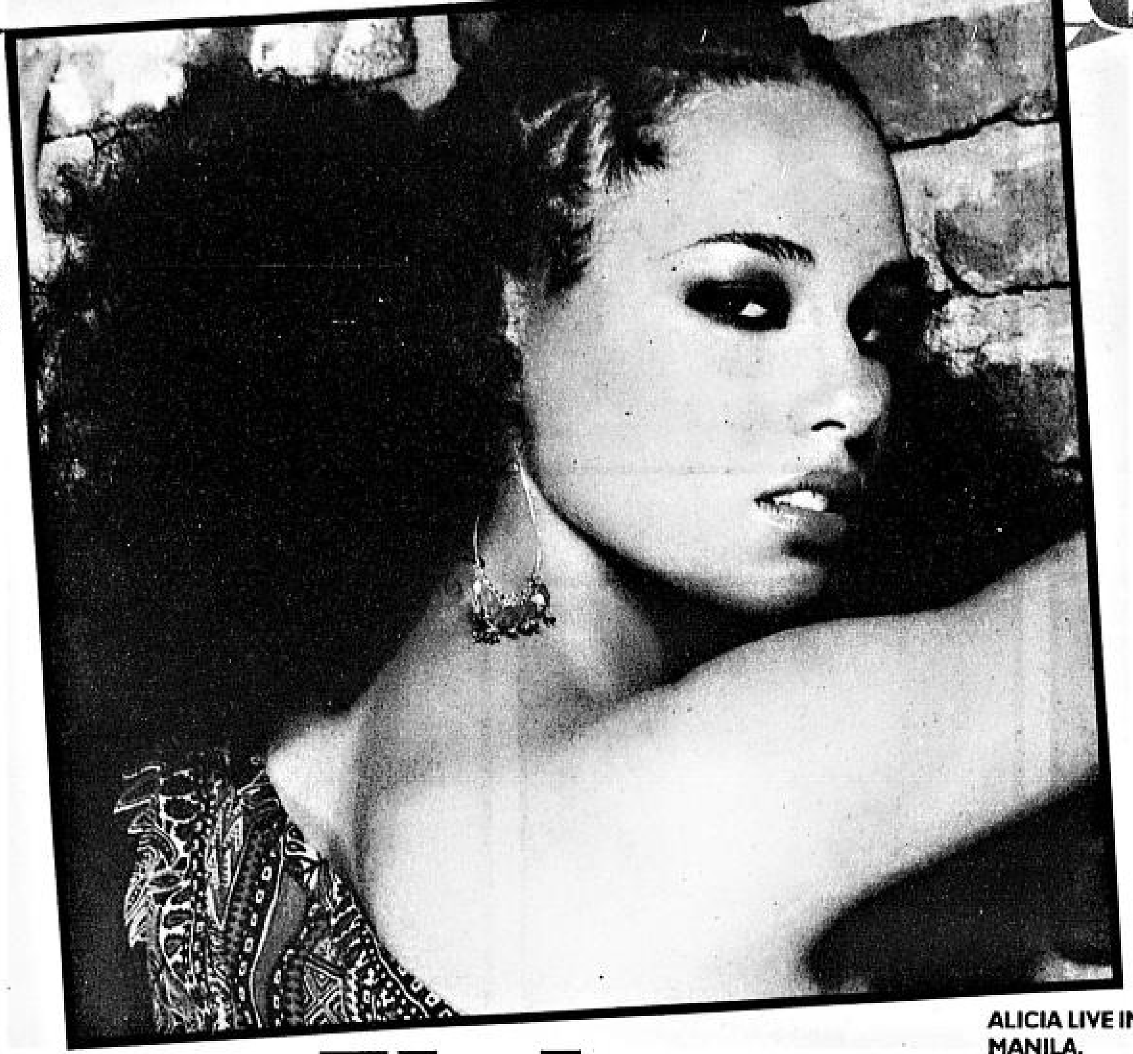
Flying Keys

Some people want it all. We know you just want tickets to her Manila concert



ALICIA LIVE IN MANILA. We're counting the nights until October 9

YES, THE soul princess is coming.

After a debut album that has earned countless awards, sold 10 million copies worldwide and has been given recognition as one of the most important new arrivals on the global recording scene, Alicia Keys will be performing live in Manila on October 9.

How's that for an event?

Alicia Keys views her work as an expression of her own life experiences. She writes from the heart and sings with all her soul, making every listener feel what she does.

A rare artist among her own generation, a singer, songwriter and extraordinary pianist who combines classical training with an old school sensibility and a direct relationship with today's mix of hip-hop and R&B.

For Alicia, her music is a journey. Her first award-winning multi-platinum album (2001's "Songs in A Minor") and her latest epic, "The Diary of Alicia Keys," she has clearly taken the first few steps in a career that already demonstrates endless promise.

On the eve of her much-anticipated sophomore album's December 2003 release, Alicia reflected on the fast-paced events of the past three years: "It hasn't been that hard dealing with all that's happened because I'm really a pretty simple lady and, most important, I keep the people who've been around me for years around me now. That keeps me very focused. I'm blessed with a family and a good circle of positive people who help me keep perspective. If I believed the hype, I would never have been able to make an album!"

Reflecting on her latest project, Alicia notes: "My music doesn't have a beginning or end. It's continuous. I didn't stop writing after the first album came out and everything I wrote since came from the experiences in my life, of being on the road, traveling, dealing with different situations. Once I got to the studio, I began to let those things out of me. By the time I did start thinking about how I wanted the new album to be, I had so many songs. You see, I don't put myself in any kind of box. I speak freely with my music. I knew that the second album would naturally be different from the first one because of all the growing I did during the past three years."

Her first single for the second album, "You Don't Know My Name," became a hit. Its equally amazing video easily reached the charts and validated the success of "The Diary of Alicia Keys." Her second single, "If I Ain't Got You," proved to be an even stronger hit when it swiftly bumped off other hit songs and rested on the number one positions of various charts in the country and abroad.

For native New Yorker Alicia—who studied the classical music of Beethoven, Mozart and Chopin, the jazz stylings of Oscar Peterson, Fats Waller and Marian McPartland and the essential music of Nina Simone, Donny Hath-

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DON'T BURST HER BUBBLE. Alicia is headed for even greater things

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Dear Ate,
I have a lot of secrets and I want to share them with you. I think I'm in love again. Hindi kay mister, love ko na yun dati pa. Iba ito. Iba siya. Mas pinasarap niya ang buhay ko.

PORK PASTEL

CRUST:
4 cups All purpose flour
1 tbsp. Sugar
1 tsp. Fine salt
1 tsp. Baking powder
1 cup Bakers Best Margarine, cut into small pieces
~~1/2 cup Cold water~~

~~Procedure: Mix flour, sugar, salt and baking~~ powder. Cut margarine and mix to form pea ~~size crumbs. Sprinkle water a tablespoon~~ at a time and mix to form a ball. ~~Refrigerate for one hour or freeze for~~ 30 minutes. Roll out into a thin sheet. Rolling should be stiff to get a good result and roll in between two sheets of wax paper. Use to cover pastel placed in a baking dish. Prick crust with a fork to allow air to pass and prevent ballooning of crust. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden in color.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

FILLING:
1/4 cup Dari Crème Classic Margarine
1 tbsp. Minced garlic
1/2 cup Chopped onions
1 cup Red and green bell peppers, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Chorizo Bilbao, sliced
1/2 kilo Monterey Pork Kasim (shoulder) menudo cut
1 cup Potatoes, sliced into cubes
1 cup Carrots, sliced into cubes
1-210 gm can Purefoods Vienna Tidbits
1/2 cup MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE, grated
3 to 4 cups water

Procedure: Melt margarine in a saucepan. Saute garlic and onions. Add bell peppers, chorizo and pork kasim. Cook until pork changes in color. Pour in water and broth of Vienna tidbits. Cover and let boil. Allow to simmer and keep covered until meat is tender. Add potatoes and cook until tender. Stir in carrots and Vienna tidbits. Cook for a couple of minutes and add MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT CHEESE. Mix well.

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Ox *ka ba dyan pre?*
Sender: Katherine Marie D. Tanyu

Carabao: Now I know how Paris Hilton felt.
Sender: Aries Arugay

Horny couple
Sender: Martin Jesse Herrera

The Beast and the Burden – Colin's Ox-hila-rating meltdown
Sender:Runny Meadow

Stick it to the Ass!! I mean Ox! I mean Carabao!
Sender: Rahab Arguelles

Why did you YIELD me Chip? WHY?!!!!!!
Sender: Marcus Gonzalez

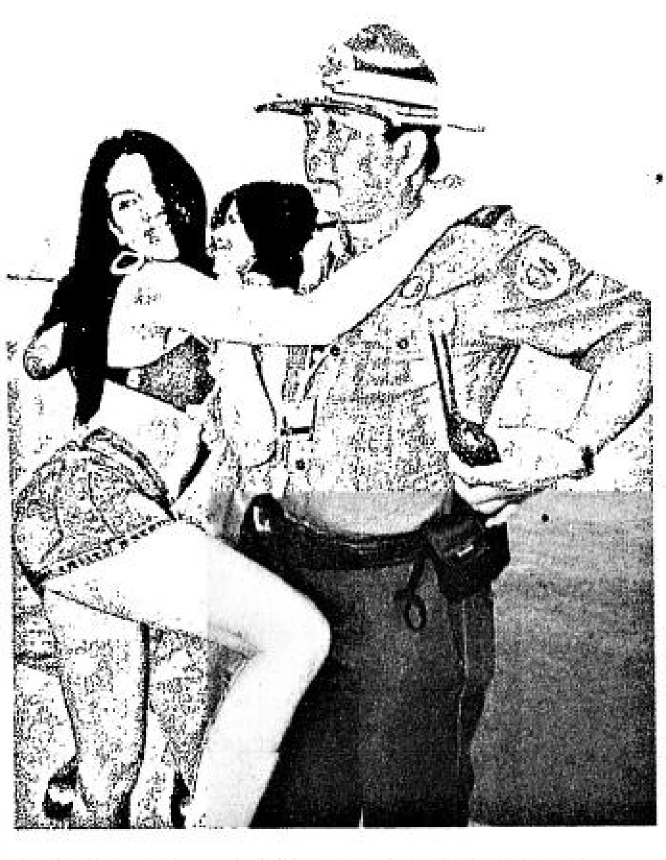
Um, so which one is the dumb mammal again?
Sender: Madelene de Guzman

Sh-OX! My head, It hurts!
Sender: Maria Lourdes P. Martinez

Oh caption, my caption!

THE RACE may be over, but the captions keep on coming! We here at Super! had to stop ourselves from puking from laughing at all the amazing entries you sent for our Super! contest. Yup, we gotta admit that the Colin and *carabao* pairing was a photo op made in reality TV heaven and a caption waiting to happen. As we remain superglued to the TV to catch the replays, here's a rundown of the entries and Super!'s first-ever "Oh caption, my caption" winner. To paraphrase Phil Keoghan, "Kulas V. Abrenilla, congratulations. You're Team #1!" Claim your Super! ringer T-shirt and umbrella at the PDI Marketing Department (tel. 897-8808, look for Hazel or Ching). All the rest, don't be bummed out because you haven't been Philiminated either. All of you get Super! prizes as well. Keep those brains razor sharp and those claws even sharper!

Taxi to Cavite: 40 pesos. Jeepney to Victoria: 50 pesos. Having your partner find the clue in then tenth of the time it took you to plow the field, humiliating yourself in the process: Priceless.
Sender: Kulas V. Abrenilla



SUPER!'s caption: ***Bomba si 'day! Pero deadma si parak***

This week's challenge

OKAY, now that the Amazing Race 5 finale has reached its nail-biting end, it's time to focus on things that are a bit more local. A funny thing happened on the way to the Baywalk last week. Traffic ground to a halt, car horns blared and jaws dropped as D'Bodies, a fledgling Catholic women's group gone wild, decided to bare their sacred temples for their promotional video. Sure enough, "D'Cops" handed the "D'Cups" their Go To Jail card, even as the latter claimed they had a city permit. Seeing as we don't need a license to laugh, here's a roll call of "D' Accused" (insert laugh track here): Kat de Santos, Palmolive Palma, Jeanette Joaquin, Lux Laurel, Kudette Honasan, Rejoice Rivera, Mikaela Monteverde, Pantene Palomino, and Ivory Ibañez. These classy ladies deserve a classy caption! You know the drill. Email us at super@inquirer.com.ph. See ya next week, ya witty devils!

Fearless forecast for the MTV Style Awards

PRE-EMPTING the results of the MTV Style Awards, we conducted an informal poll on taxi drivers, cigarette vendors and starlets on who they think have "it."

This Tuesday, at the NBC Tent, we shall all find out if the pulse of our Super! readers is on cue.

Most Influential International Artist: Beyonce, Jennifer Lopez, Lenny Kravitz, Britney Spears, Avril Lavigne

Their bet: **Beyonce.** "*Kasi* sexy *sya*." Or Lenny Kravitz. "*Kasi nagpa*-rebond *sya*."

Favorite MTV Rockstyle (Male): Bamboo Mañalac, Rico Blanco, Karl Roy, Christian Bautista, Jay R

Their bet: **Bamboo Mañalac.** "*Kasi okay ang Noypi*." Or Jay R. "*Kasi okay ang* Fil-Am."

Favorite MTV Divastyle: Barbie Almalbis, Wawi Navarroza, Regine Velasquez, Cynthia Alexander, Grace Nono

Their bet: **Regine.** "Feeling *ko sya. Kasi sya lang ang kilala ko dyan.*"

Favorite Stylish Leading Lady: Aubrey Miles, Claudine Barretto, Angel Aquino, Regine Velasquez, Kris Aquino

Their bet: **Aubrey Miles.** "Because she wore pink faux fur to an event. Plus, she has Troy Montero as arm candy," said the *colegiala* inside the FX.

Favorite Stylish Leading Man: Jericho Rosales, Piolo Pascual, Aga Muhlach, Diether Ocampo, Richard Gomez

Their bet: Tie between **Diet** and **Piolo**, according to two hairdressers. "Sister, **magpakatotoo ka!**" they screamed at each other.

Favorite Stylish Dynamic Duo: Ariel & Maverick, Kristine Hermosa & Diether Ocampo, Kris Aquino & Boy Abunda, Marc Nelson & Dyan Castillejo, Phoemela Barranda & Paolo Bediones

Their bet: It's a toss-up between **Ariel** and **Maverick** and **Kris Aquino** and **Boy Abunda.** "*Lahat sila ibang klase ang* fashion."

Favorite Stylish Power Player–Male: Miguel Zubiri, Mar Roxas, Eddie Gil, Cheese Escudero, Lito Atienza

Their bet: **"Cheese?!"**

Favorite Stylish Power Player –Female: Loren Legarda, Imee Marcos, Ces Drilon, Imelda Marcos, Gina de Venecia

Their bet: Yo, Máma. **Imelda.** "*Kasi binigyan nya kami ng* picture (*na walang* rubber band)."

Here are the nominees for the jury awards:

Male Fashion Model of the Year Rich Herrera, Brent Javier, Borgy Manotoc, Marc Nelson, Corey Wills

Their bet: **Borgy Manotoc.** "*Sabi nila kamukha ko sya*."

Technical Award for Makeup Artist of the Year Henri Calayag, Lala Flores, Patrick Rosas, Juan Sarte and Xeng Zulueta

Their bet: "*Sabi ng* boss *ko si* **Henri.**"

Technical Award for Stylist of the Year Millet Arzaga, Jenni Epperson, Shahani Gania, Chechel Joson and Gian Romano

Their bet: **Jenni Epperson.** "*Ganda ng* Just Shop, *inuwi ni ate*."

Revolutionary Designer of the Year Ivarluski Aseron, Mich Dulce, Dennis Lustico, Joey Samson and Kate Torralba

Their bet: "*Si* .**Kate Torralba** *kasi kamukha nya si* Hello Kitty." "**Ivarluski Aseron.** *Wala lang*."

Designer of the Year Rajo Laurel, Jojie Lloren, Ignacio Loyola, Randy Ortiz and Patrice Ramos-Diaz

Their bet: "**Rajo Laurel.** *Di ba sya ang gumagawa ng damit ni* Kris Aquino?"

Best in Suit Ed Calma, Juan Miguel Ongsiako, Joel Tantoco, Fred Uytengsu and Jaime Zobel

Their bet: "*Ano yung* suit?"

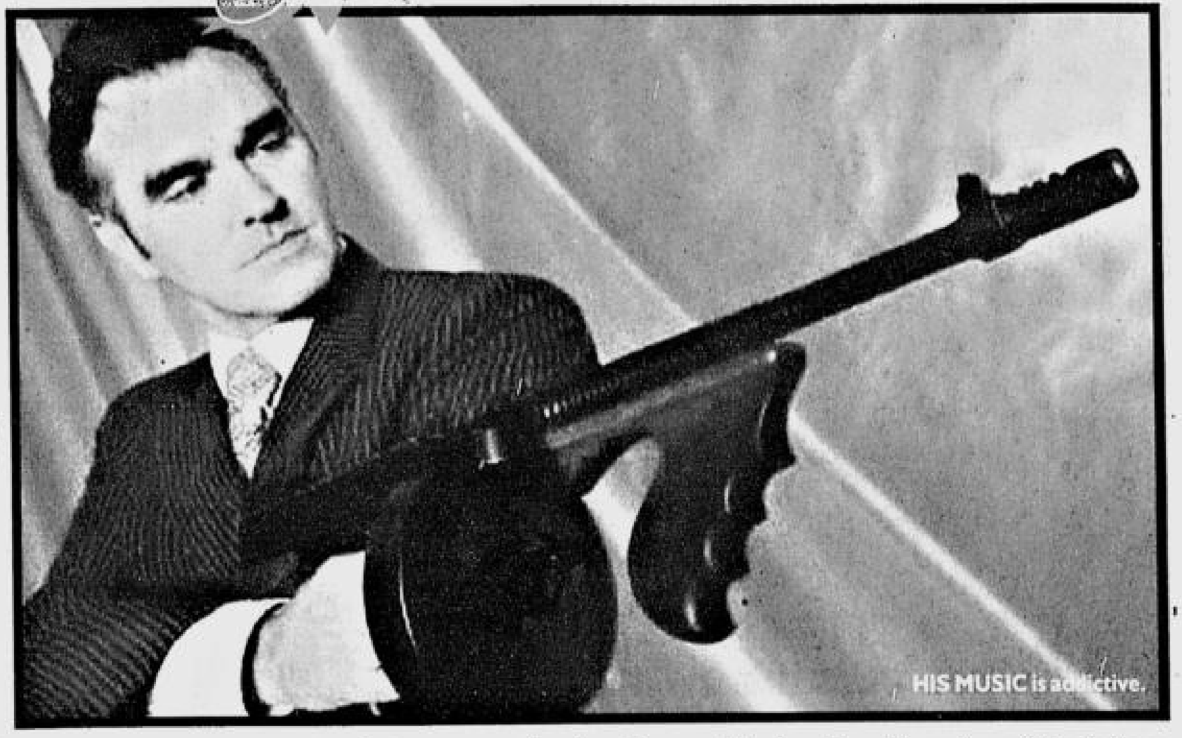
It Girl Style Leica Carpo, Celine Lopez, Raya Mananquil, Kat Tantoco and Bea Valdez

Their bet: "**Celine Lopez.** *Siya ba yung nasa* Pepsi?"

Most Stylish Music Video 7 Foot Jr.–"Kwento", Cambio–"DV", Radioactive Sago Project–"Astro", South Border–"The Show", The Late Isabel–"Doll's Head"

Their bet: **"Cambio's 'DV.'"** "*Ang ganda ng* Divisoria *doon*."

The rough boys are waiting for Morrissey


HIS MUSIC is addictive.

By Johan Egger

EARLY 2004, a line of people stretches hundreds of meters outside an old theater in Los Angeles. The largely Latino crowd keep passersby at a safe distance, as these heavy-built and heavily tattooed Latinos get ready for a concert that will start in the old theater, the Wiltern, in six hours.

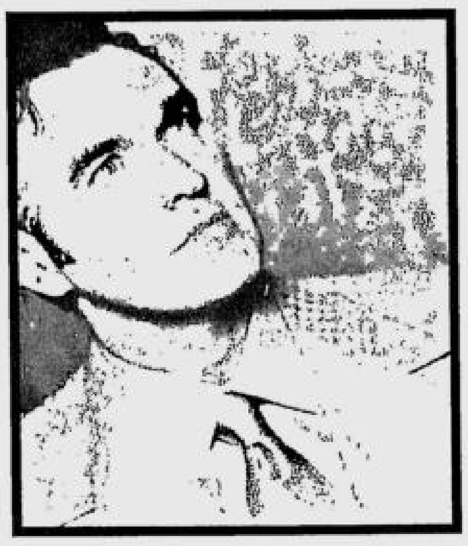
One may wonder whom they are waiting for.

The answer is as surprising as it is telling on the role music can play in uniting people. The seem-to-be gang members with Latin American roots are waiting for a depressive, neurotic, gay man from Manchester, England. The rough boys are waiting for Morrissey.

Steven Patrick Morrissey first became known as the handsome front man for The Smiths. These Mancunian pop dreamers once ruled in a world of young men with a love for sad poetry, cynicism and Elvis haircuts. Nothing lasts forever, though, and as the band, in 1987, decided that seven albums were enough, Morrissey instantly took on a solo career.

Thus, 16 years after his debut, "Viva Hate," young Latino men queue up to watch their hero sing "The More You Ignore Me, the Closer I Get," "He Knows I'd Love to See Him" and "We Hate It When Our Friends Become Successful."

On the other side of the Atlantic, Morrissey attracts an equally impressive following. The European fans are also young men, primarily. There is a difference, however, that is remarkable. The European Morrissey following largely consists of young, skinny pop dreamers favoring Elvis haircuts, and they all carry white lilies, intended for their guide in a cold, mean world.


MORRISSEY offers a refreshing outlet for a broken heart, for a lost soul

I then wonder what a white, Christian, pale, depressive and celibate gay man could possibly have in common with the young Latino men of Los Angeles, but something in common they must have, since the young men are, six hours later, all singing along to the songs of Steven Patrick Morrissey.

> What could a white, pale, depressive and celibate gay man possibly have in common with the young Latino men of Los Angeles?

Dissociation

So how to explain this apparently unconditional love?

Morrissey has always felt out of place in society. This is reflected, for example, in the song "Panic": "Hang the blessed DJ/ Because the music that they constantly play/ It says nothing to me about my life/ Hang the blessed DJ."

I do believe that, despite the differences (Morrissey being young, and gay, in a Conservative northern England in the early '80s, and the Latinos being largely uneducated villains in a country very different from their own), their sense of dissociation are similar.

I further believe that in a world where the edges are sharp, where feelings are hidden, Morrissey and his music offers a refreshing outlet for a broken heart, for a lost soul. This is further accentuated by the fact that Morrissey's feelings of alienation and lack of love are essential and universal.

Isn't it indeed true that "The More You Ignore Me, the Closer I Get"?

Isn't it indeed true that "Such a Little Thing Makes Such a Big Difference"?

Isn't it indeed true that "You're Gonna Need Someone on Your Side"?

Isn't it indeed true that "There is a Light that Never Goes Out"?

These songs are, I believe, some of the reasons that these young, rough and ready men, sing along to the old as well as the new songs of Steven Patrick Morrissey.

You are the Quarry

"You are the Quarry" is the first Morrissey album since "Maladjusted" (released in 1997), and has turned out to be a brilliant comeback from modern pop music's twisted soul. The album offers classically Morrissey-esque lyrics about dark souls, broken hearts and feelings of dissociation, and it does so with a touch of America. Since the behavior of the British press finally made Morrissey leave his mother soil, he has been living in America, something that is reflected in songs like "America is Not the World" and the fantastic Latino tribute, "First of the Gang to Die."

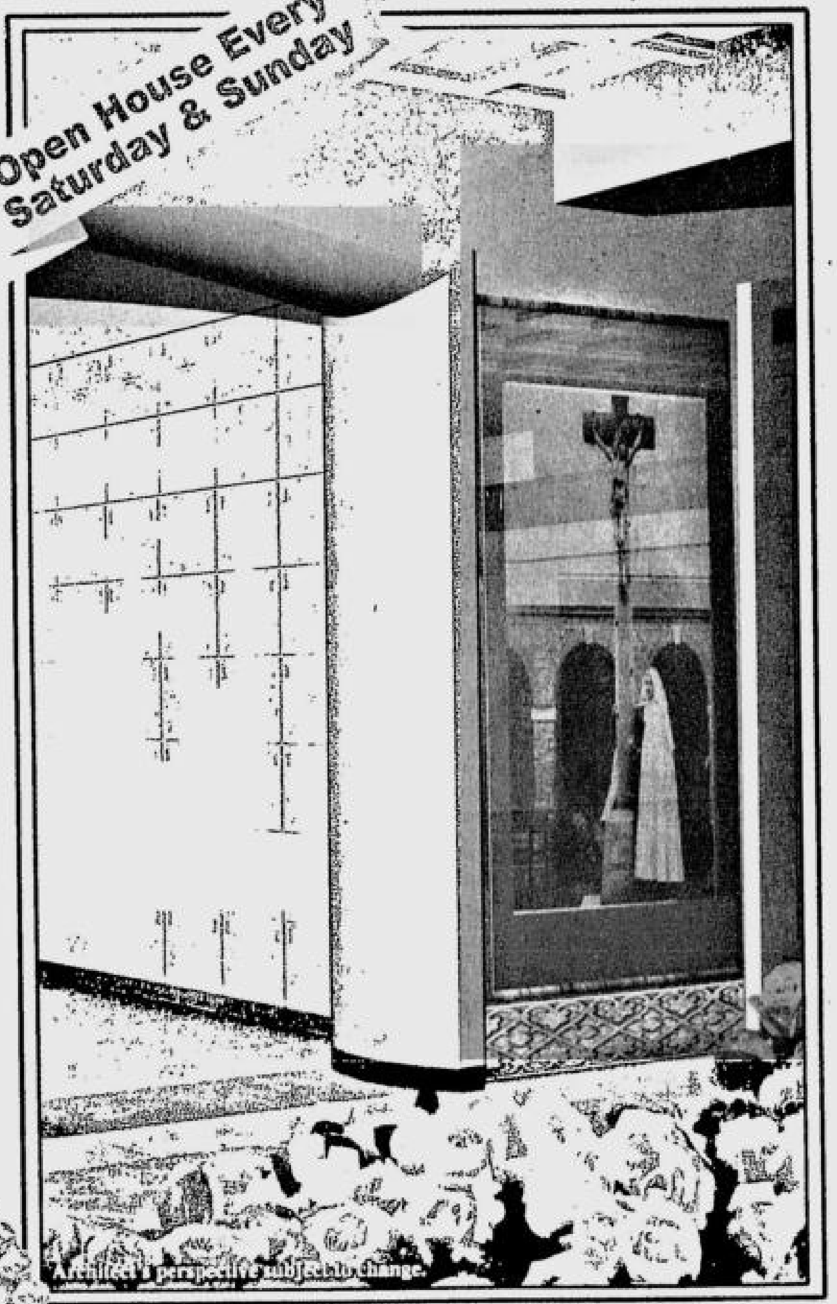
"We are the pretty petty thieves,
And you're standing on our street
Where Hector was the first of the gang
With a gun in his hand
And the first to do time
The first of the gang to die. Oh my.
Where Hector was the first of the gang
With a gun in his hand
And the first to do time
The first of the gang to die"

The album as a whole is easy to approach, with a friendly production that focuses upon the melodies, and harmonies, of Morrissey's pop creations, without leaving the core of his songs, the lyrics, behind.

In addition to the songs mentioned above, I instantly fell in love with "Come Back to Camden" and "I Have Forgiven Jesus" (what a brilliant title!). Listening to the album, I realize that "You are the Quarry" could actually turn out to be as much of a private love story as critically acclaimed "Vauxhall and I" became when it was released in 1994.

I therefore urge you to head straight for the nearest music shop to get your hands on "You are the Quarry." But remember: nobody owns just one Morrissey album. If you get one, you will want to get them all.

Open House Every Saturday & Sunday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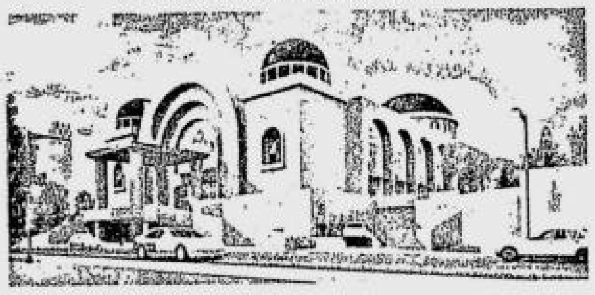
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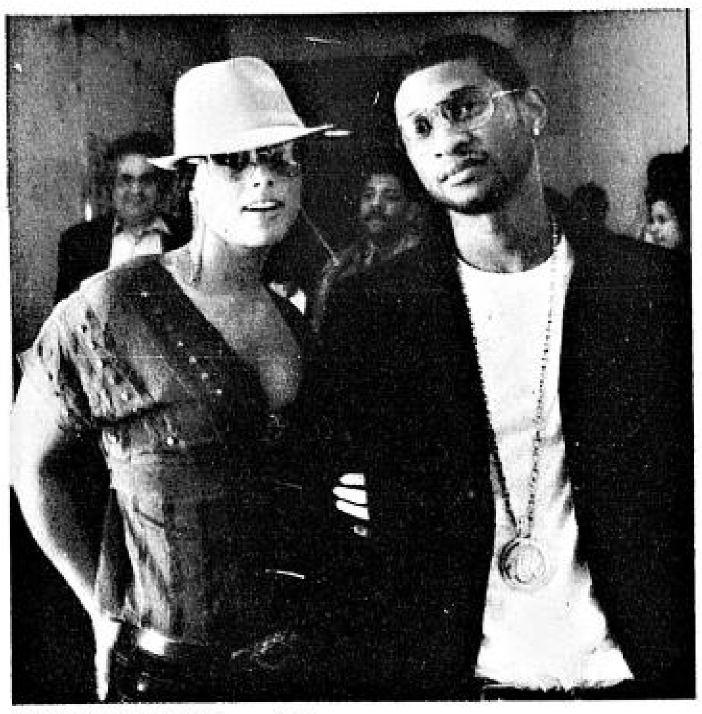
Flying Keys



DREAMY DUET. Alicia and Usher

From page E1

away, Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder while listening to Tupac Shakur, The Notorious B.I.G., Jay-Z and the Wu-Tang Clan, among others, as contemporary inspirations—the choice of the right recording environment for working on her all-important second album was critical. "I normally record out of my house but I was moving so I had to find a studio which would be like a home away from home. I decided I'd try this one place that had been recommended to me. It was a spot in downtown Manhattan. I figured if I did one song there and the vibe was good, I'd do the album there. The song was 'Nobody Not Really' and it was perfect. It was private, quiet—no platinum records on the wall, kinda Zen-like. And that's where I did most of the album over a period of about eight months."

Alicia says that making the choice as to when her sophomore album was complete wasn't necessarily easy: "I write all the way to the last second! It was hard to find the cut-off place but you just know when you're done. I realized I had expressed this particular period of growth in my life when we finished recording the song 'When You Really Love Someone.' The song is about real unconditional love and that can be with anyone—your brother, sister, mother, father, man, woman or best friend. There are times when something can happen in life and it's crucial that you be there for someone. I got the inspiration while we were in London so we went to the studio and cut it right there."

R&B ROYALTY

Such is the hard work for the album and her songwriting that Alicia says: "When the final album was done, I was ecstatic," Alicia states. "I really felt the energy of the songs and hearing them as one piece of work, I was able to say, 'Yes, this is who I am' right now. I'm very proud, very happy and so excited about offering the album to the world.

Alicia's Manila concert will begin with performances from Luke Mejares and Kyla. Alicia will be performing songs from her latest album and more. This concert is being organized by the same people who brought Mariah Carey and Linkin Park in front of roaring crowds in Manila. (That means good security—which is essential for every concert-goer.)

The Alicia Keys World Tour at the Araneta Coliseum on October 9 is presented by Smart Gold, No Curfew watch stores and MTV Tours Presents together with Tommy Hilfiger watches, Information Gateway, MTV Philippines Official Residence Discovery Suites, with the participation of Addict Mobile, Smart Buddy, Smart Money, Solar Channel, ETC Channel, GMA-7 and in part by Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5RT, 103.5 K-Lite, Monster Radio RX 93. 1, Joey 92.3 and Crossover 105. 1.

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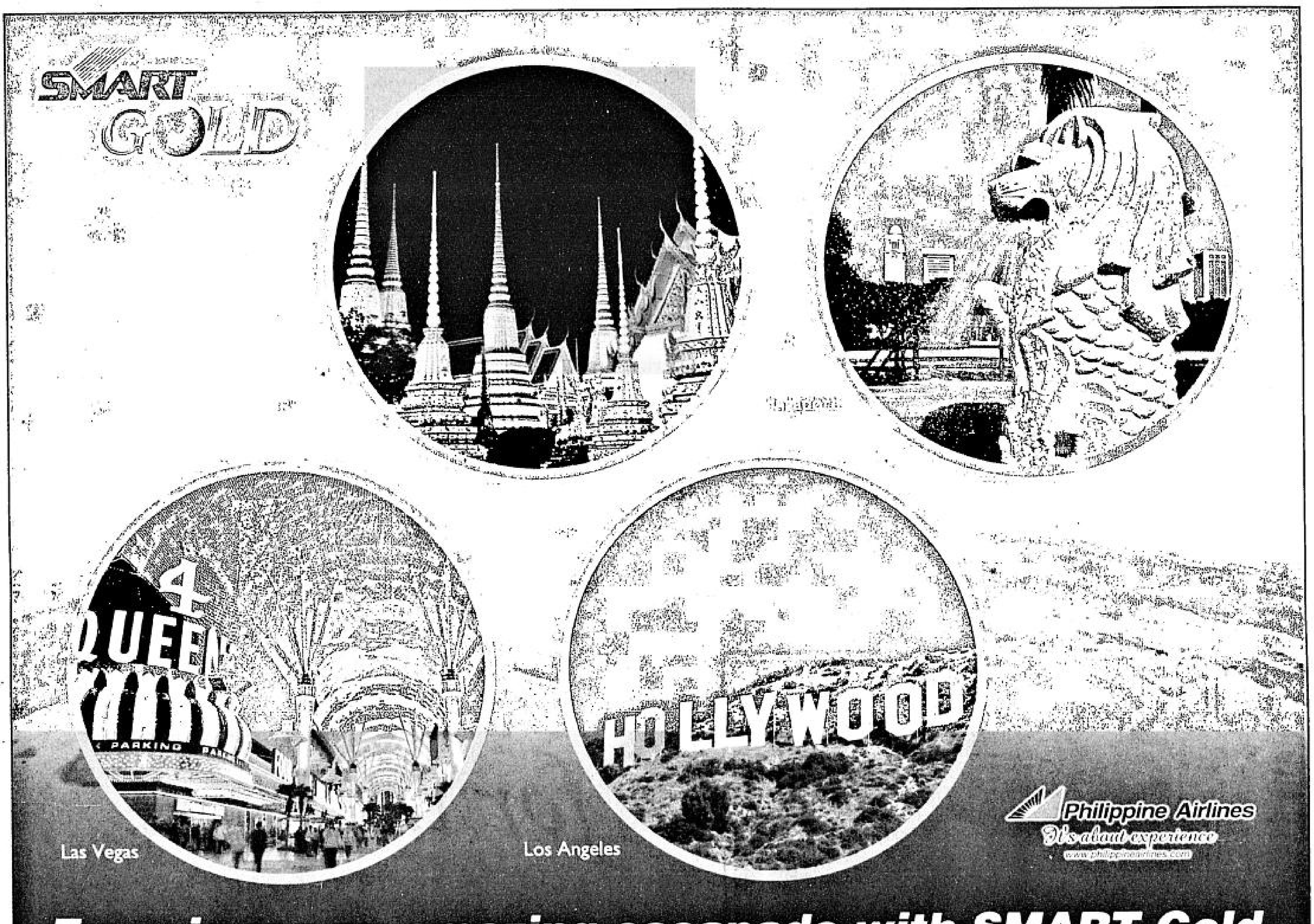

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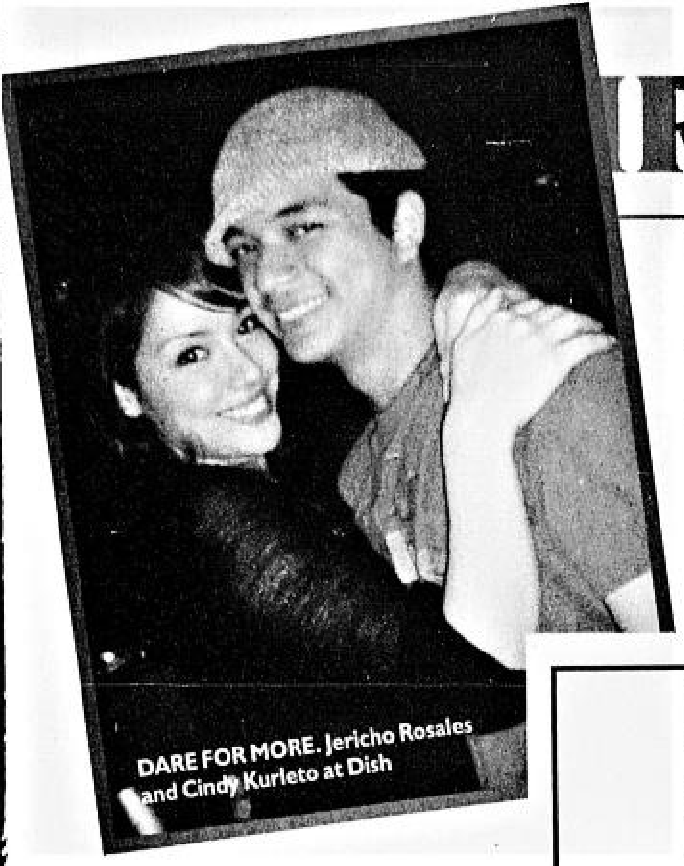


DARE FOR MORE. Jericho Rosales and Cindy Kurleto at Dish

Echo, echo!

Text and photos by Tim Yap

"HUBAD!"

Every time a friend of mine hears this sound bite, she strips.

In short, Jericho Rosales, Echo to his close buddies, has that commanding presence that makes women (and men) take off their clothes, as he did in his latest Pepsi commercial.

With this in mind, I rushed off to Dish last weekend to strip off my inhibitions and greet him a happy birthday.

Earlier that night, he grabbed the mic and proceeded to serenade his guests. After all, the Pepsi boy is part of the singing and flexing sensation, "The Hunks."

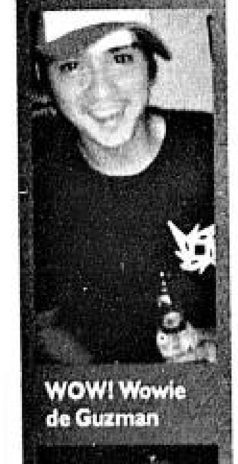
Hip, young show biz was in full force in

ECHO/ F2

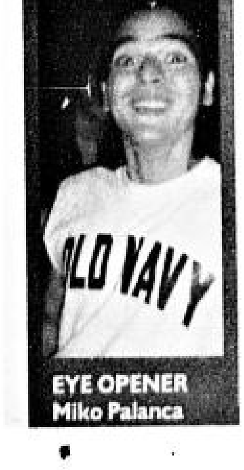
ACTOR'S actor Joel Torre

POWER player Deo Endrinal

YOUNG actor/director Lui Villaruz



WOW! Wowie de Guzman



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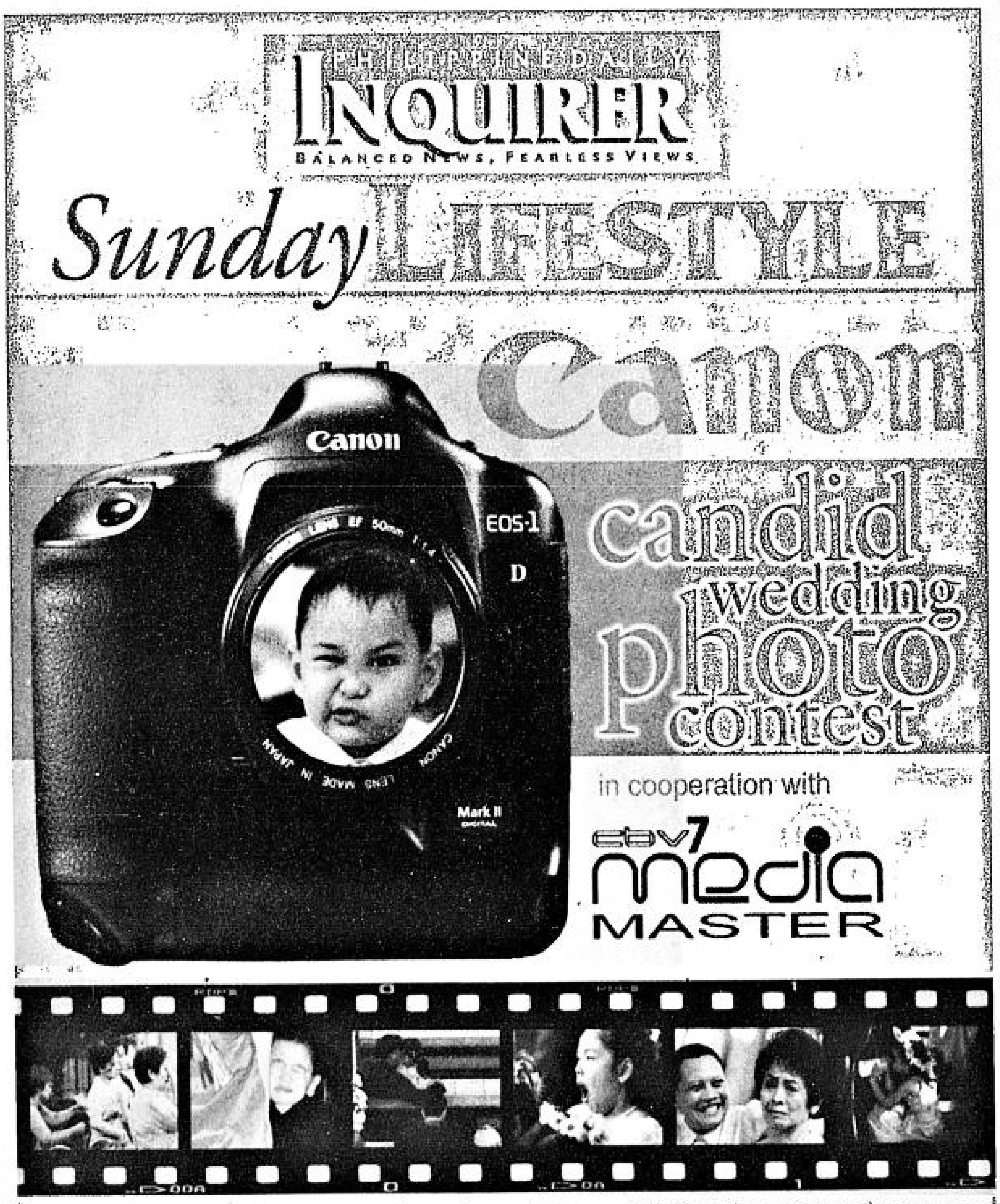

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Sunday LIFESTYLE
Canon
candid wedding photo contest
in cooperation with
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CONTEST MECHANICS:

1. The contest is open to all professional and amateur Filipino photographers
2. The focus of the contest is candid wedding photos. Entries should capture sidelights and unguarded moments of a Filipino wedding, the laughter and tears that make the event special and unique.
3. Entries should cover an actual wedding
4. Contestants can use either digital or conventional film camera
5. A participant can submit a maximum of five entries. Photos should be printed in 8x10 inches, without borders, unmounted. No digital enhancement or desktop printout will be allowed
6. Winners will be required to present the original negatives or data file for verification of ownership
7. An entry should have a title. The participant must put his/ her complete name, address, contact information, and signature on the back of the photo.
8. The participant retains the copyright of the entry.
9. Each entry should be put in a brown envelope.
10 The contest is from June 30, 2004 to November 19, 2004
11 Entries should be submitted to the Philippine Daily Inquirer (c/o Marketing department-Hazel Soriaga, Ching dela Cruz), Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City
12. Entry must be exclusive to the contest, unpublished and must not have been submitted to other contests.
13. Criteria: Relevance to the theme (30%), composition (30%), and creativity (40%)
14. Winners will be notified through phone and mail. Their names will also be published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
15. Prizes can be claimed at the Philippine Daily Inquirer within (60) days from receipt of notification.
16 Winning entries will be displayed during the bridal fair, "Wedding March at NBC Tent", presented by PDI and cbv7 Media master, on January 22-23, 2005
17. Winners must present 3 valid I Ds.
18 The decision of the board of judges is final.
19 Employees of Canon Phils., PDI, cbv7 Media master, and their advertising agency, dealers and participating outlets, and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity, are disqualified
20 Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. and PDI reserve the right to publish or display the entries.

WEDDING MARCH at the NBC Tent
January 22-23,2005
Candid Wedding Photo Contest is presented by Canon Philippines in cooperation with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and cbv7 Media master

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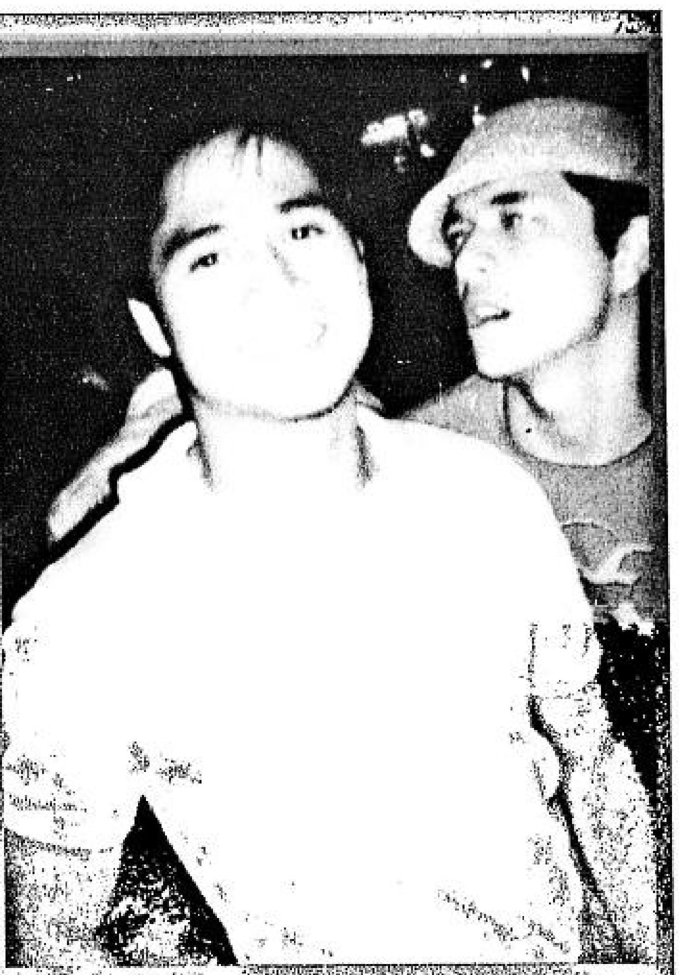
GROOVE IS IN THE HEART. Heart Evangelista reigns

KISSING CINDY. Feeling Echo

SIBLING SENSATIONS. John and Camille Prats

WHO'S THE VICTIM? John Estrada and Carlos Agassi


WHO'S THE BIGGER HUNK? Piolo Pascual with birthday boy Jericho Rosales

Echo, echo!

From page F1

greeting its "it" boy.

The thing about Echo that makes him endearing to industry folks is his down-to-earth and uncomplicated nature. I personally think he is one of glitz biz's best dressed men, able to carry spunky outfits with much panache. Lately I've been seeing him wearing different hats. From a sporty beret to a sassy fedora, he exudes a quiet confidence and easygoing charm that makes him an idol, both onscreen and offscreen.

Boob tube beauties

Even members of the more elusive surfing community take their hats off to this dude, whose skills in riding the waves are respected.

Catching the wave at his birthday salvo, I spotted Cindy Kurleto right in the middle of the action. TV cameras were all around them, asking if they're back in each other's arms. Since I am not a show biz reporter, I decided to skip the matter and focus my attention on the other *telenovela* stars present.

Looking around Dish at the ABS-CBN compound, it was quite surreal seeing all these boob tube beauties and beefcakes (the 3 B's) hanging loose in such close quarters. No catfights, no off-cam sneers, no raised eyebrows—just a bunch of ordinary folks with extraordinary jobs. At least, that's what I saw.

Show biz is often perceived as a shallow pool of talent with a lot of back talk and sucking up. Luckily, there was none of that that night. Maybe this is what he strips them of.

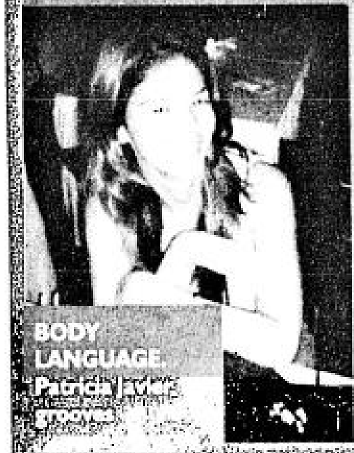
So the next time Echo hollers "*Hubad!*", dare not resist.

SMILE CENTRAL. BJ Palanca and Kaye Abad

ALL GROWN UP. Patrick Garcia in the house

DIVA delights. Zsa Zsa Padilla

SOAP stud Luis Alandy


BODY LANGUAGE. Patricia Javier grooves

PLANET DANCE. DJ Marc Del Rosario is the new music man

NOT ECHO! Marcel Crespo and Cindy Kurleto

JUMP FOR JODI. Jodi Santamaria at Echo's party

GIRL POWER. Nikki Valdez and Desiree del Valle

EX CHANNEL boy Dominic Ochoa

KAYA MO TO! Echo with Tim Yap

PHOTO STAR. Jovel Lorenzo

CRUISE CONTROL. John Lloyd Cruz

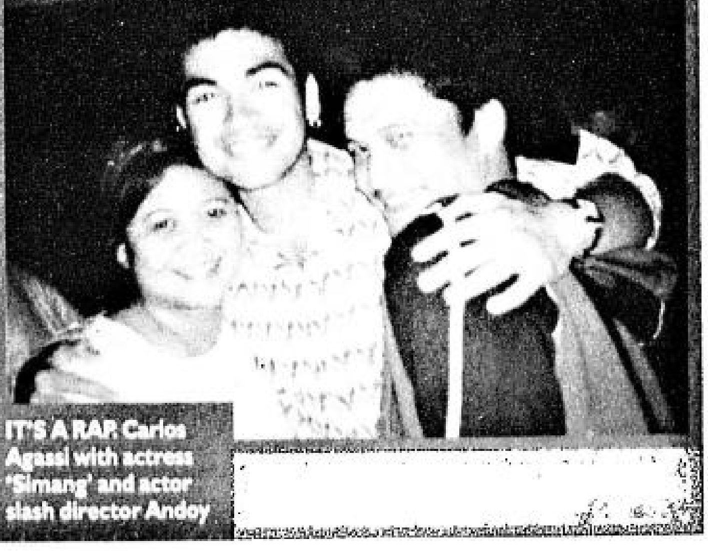
BEAUTY PLUS. Zsa Zsa Padilla and make up artist Bern Duenas

YOU! Francis [illegible]

WAZZUP! Wazzup! Angelica Panganiban and Ketchup Eusebio

PUBLISHING POWERHOUSE. James Ong, Carlo Tadiar and Philip Cu-Unjieng

METRO MUSES. Mel Cuevas, Romina Urra-Gonzalez and birthday girl Alya Honasan


IT'S A RAP. Carlos Agassi with actress 'Simang' and actor slash director Andoy

Crazy Christmas countdown

LET the countdown begin! Gift Gate's clock has started ticking as it celebrates 12 weeks to Christmas with amazing prizes and surprises for all shoppers beginning October 1. Each week, for every P300 purchase at Gift Gate, Swatch, Segue, and Sanrio Surprises Stores, shoppers have a chance to win Swatch Bunnysutra watches, Lego Ferrari Sets, Sanrio Desk Fans and the grand prize—a Hello Kitty Vespa.

Start shopping. Who knows, your Christmas gift may come in early this year?

Week 1: 12 Gift Gate shoppers will win 12 Swatch Bunnysutra watches.

Week 2: 11 Gift Gate shoppers will win 11 Sisley shoulder bags.

Week 3: 10 Gift Gate shoppers will win 10 Lego Ferrari sets.

Week 4: 9 Gift Gate shoppers will win 9 Russ Stuffed Toy collection.

Week 5: 8 Gift Gate shoppers will win 8 Lego Knights sets.

Week 6: 7 Gift Gate shoppers will win 7 Sanrio Desk Fans.

Week 7: 6 Gift Gate shoppers will win 6 Flik Flak watches.

Week 8: 5 Gift Gate shoppers will win 5 Swatch Bijoux sets.

Week 9: 4 Gift Gate shoppers will win 4 Benetton luggages.

Week 10: 3 Gift Gate shoppers will win 3 Russ Christmas trees.

Week 11: 2 Gift Gate shoppers will win 2 Segue Minibikes.

Week 12: 1 Gift Gate shopper will win 1 Hello Kitty Vespa.

Make shopping at Gift Gate a weekly habit. You can be the next lucky winner.

In other news

THE RACE is on!

The timing is perfect. As Formula 1 gears up for the races as the first grand prix opens in China on Sunday, Gift Gate presents the latest Lego collection—The Lego Ferrari—which is now available in all Gift Gate stores.

Shanghai, the country's richest city, has spent $325 million to ensure that Formula 1 makes its debut in China with a splash.

Michael Schumacher is excited about the inaugural of the Chinese Grand Prix with a new track that will offer the drivers some "real overtaking possibilities."

Lego celebrates the opening of the races with new models and endless possibilities with the Ferrari collection.

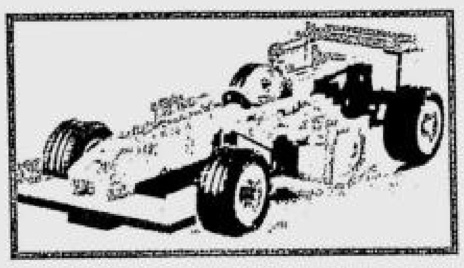
Join the best Formula 1 Team in the world!

The world of Formula 1 racing is now within reach as Lego presents its newest Ferrari collection. Imagine the power of creating your own model combined with the power to create your own stories and action ... in the setting of the world's most famous racetrack. Endless fun has begun!

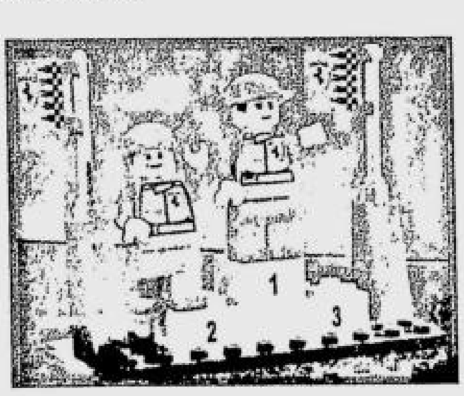
Be the Ferrari top engineer and build the cool Formula 1 racer or feel the adrenaline pumping during a 6.9-second pit stop: Now is your chance to become a true champion and celebrate victory on the podium with your teammates Michael Schumacher and Rubens Barrichello. The most successful driver for Ferrari, Schumacher has taken the red cars on track more than any other driver with a total of 139 races and 63 race wins. While the likeable "Rubinho" will be working at Schumacher's side this season to ensure more glory for the dominant Ferrari.

So jump into the racing seat and burn some rubber with the new Lego Ferrari Collection. Anyone from 2 to 99 years old can play on and join Lego as it conquers the Formula 1 racetrack.

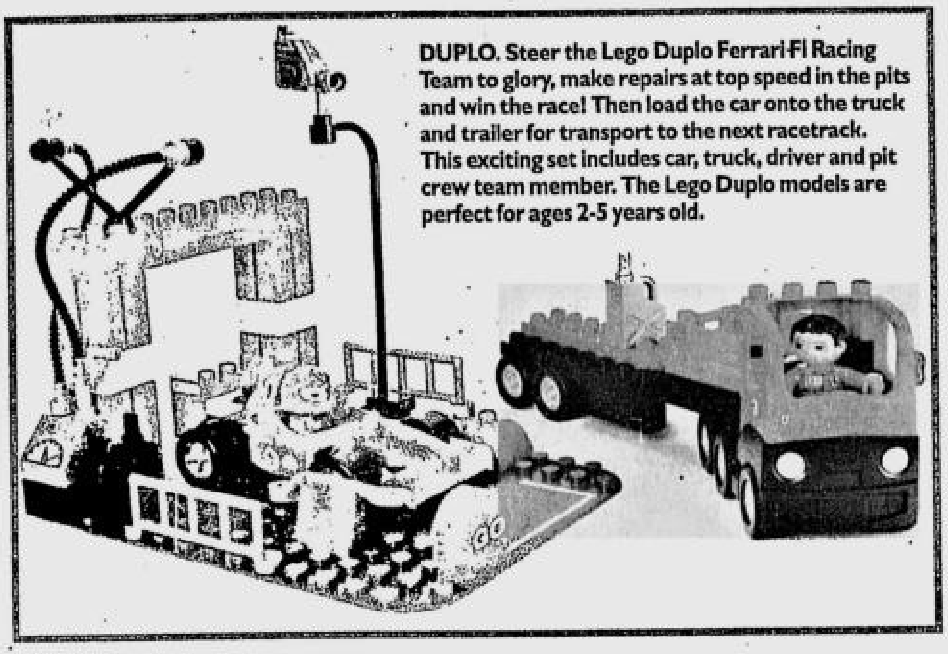
The Lego Ferrari Collection is now available at all Gift Gate Stores nationwide. Gift Gate, Inc. exclusively distributes Lego in the Philippines.



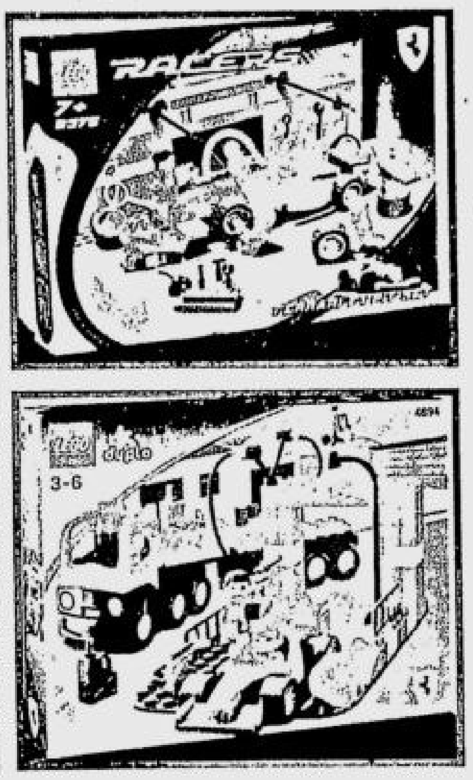
FERRARI FI RACER I:24. Powered by a strong pull-back motor and decorated with all the authentic logos and colors. Build, race and win with your own Ferrari and become a true champion like Michael Schumacher.



SCHUMI AND RUBINHO MODELS. As so often, Ferrari's top drivers Michael Schumacher and Rubens Barrichello are celebrating on the winners' podium. The set includes Ferrari flags, a silver cup, and mini-figure versions of the drivers. The mini-figures can also be used with Ferrari FI Racer I-.24 and Ferrari FI Pit Set.



DUPLO. Steer the Lego Duplo Ferrari FI Racing Team to glory, make repairs at top speed in the pits and win the race! Then load the car onto the truck and trailer for transport to the next racetrack. This exciting set includes car, truck, driver and pit crew team member. The Lego Duplo models are perfect for ages 2-5 years old.



FERRARI FI PIT SET. Join the Ferrari FI pit crew, and help your 6 mechanics refuel, change tires and solve any mechanical problems before the racer tears back onto the track—all in a matter of seconds. Or rebuild the pit into an authentic FI start grid, and feel the adrenalin start to pump as you wait for the lights to change to green.

SO WHAT COKE ARE YOU, REALLY?

Did you know that it's easy to tell someone's character by the things he or she likes? Take the quiz below and be surprised how much your taste tells a lot about who you are and, most of all, what Coke will best refresh you.

What would you wear on a big date?
A. A classy, all-black ensemble from top to toe
B. Whatever's loose and comfortable
C. Preppy silhouette that's dominantly neutrals
D. Body-hugging that will show your assets

Who are the artists on your CD rack?
A. Maroon 5, Alicia Keys
B. Hoobastank, Incubus
C. Dashboard Confessional
D. Ministry of Sound, Ibiza

What do you read?
A. Newspaper and novels
B. Independent titles
C. Comics and sci-fi
D. Magazines and self-help books

How do you like your steak?
A. Well-done
B. Rare
C. Medium-rare
D. I don't eat steak

What is your dream cell phone?
A. The less complicated, the better
B. Something that no one else has
C. With lots of games and software to operate
D. Streamlined, with lots of stylish covers

What's you dream car?
A. Anything that has four wheels and drive
B. SUV
C. Beetle
D. Porsche

How will you pose in your yearbook photo?
A. Something that mommy would hang on the wall
B. Wacky and crazy, with tongue sticking out
C. You really don't care
D. Glamorous, almost like a magazine photo shoot

Now, the fun part. Below is an assessment of your personality profile. Find out which one you are based on your answers above. As a bonus, we've also written down which Coca-Cola best describes and suits you. After all, there's nothing like grabbing a Coke that'll refresh you the way you want it to.

Mostly A's
You're a classic. Everyone finds it easy to talk to you, and you get along well with almost everybody. You find it easy to get new friends, even in the most unlikely places.

So to speak, you're like the Regular Coke. The one that everyone has always loved.

Mostly B's
You're on the wild side. You like to explore new places, and you love the outdoors. You find satisfaction in experimenting, and is happy knowing that there's always something different to do.

If you were a Coke, you'd be Cherry Coke. There's always a cherry wild side in you!

Mostly C's
You've got a lot going for you coz you've got it just right. You always see the fun side of things. Easy-going and humorous, surely no party will be the same without you.

You're definitely a Vanilla Coke—you have just the right touch of vanilla.

Mostly D's
You're ultra sophisticated. You always strive to improve yourself. You go to the gym, eat healthy food, because you know they're good for you. You're a New Age phenomenon!

Coke Light best suits you. It's the same Coke but with less than 1 calorie, it's good for you.

Ito ang Tru!
New
Royal
tru-grape
Mas Maraming Flavors!
Ito ang Tru!
New
Royal
tru-dalandan
Mas Masaya!
Ito ang Tru!
Royal
tru-orange
230 mL
YAN ang TRU!

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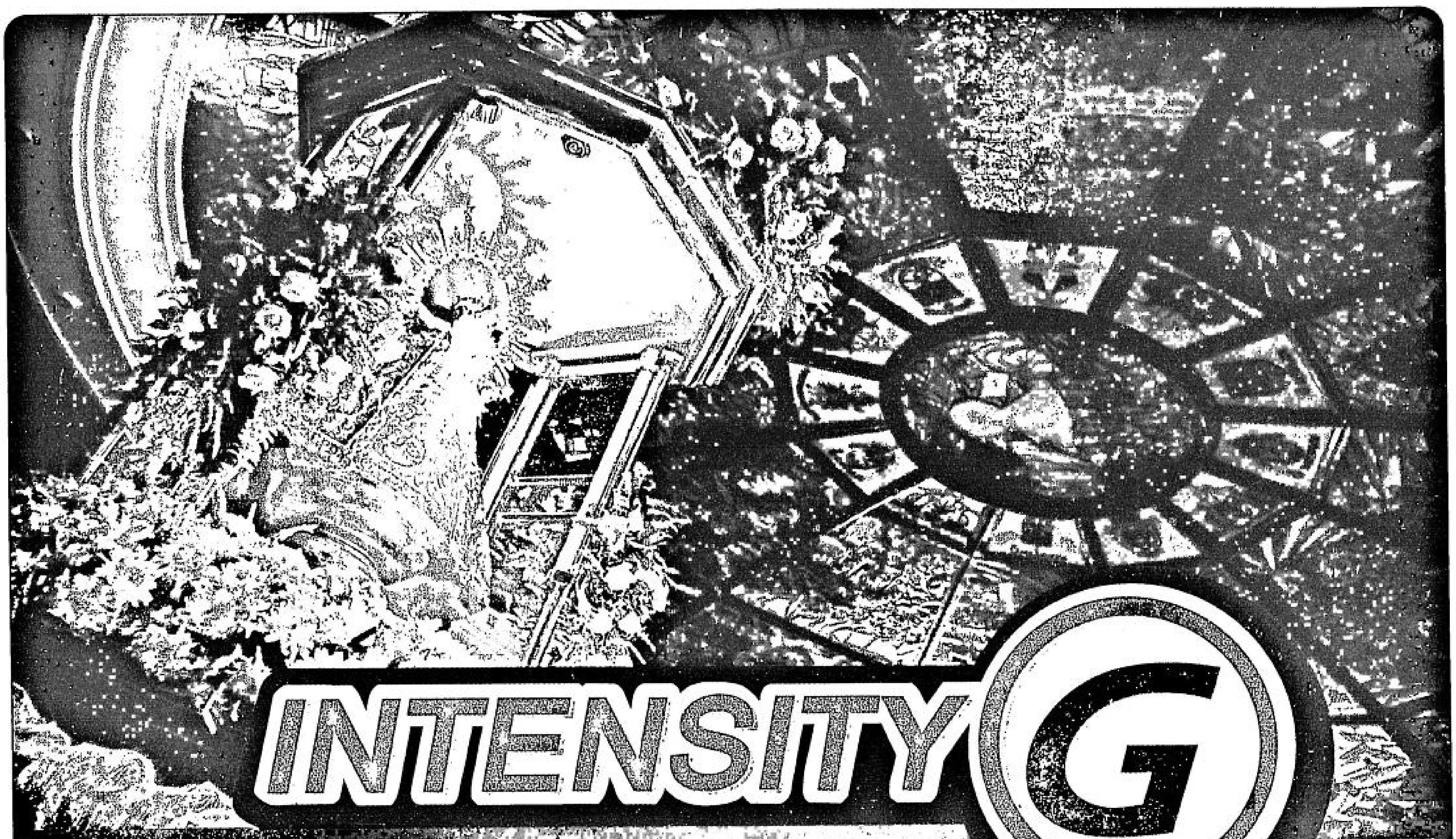
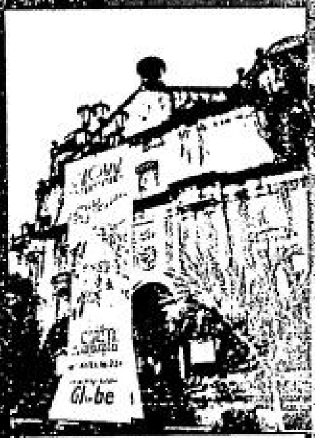
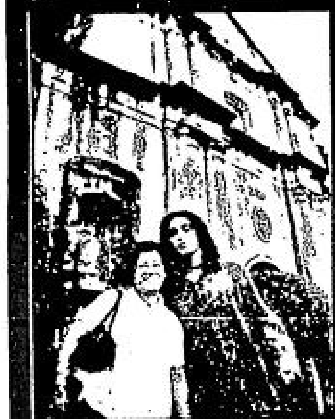


INTENSITY G goes on a pilgrimage to Naga

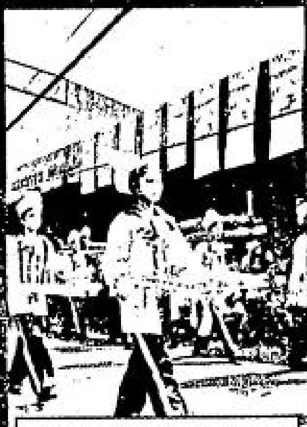
July and Globe subscriber Roy Regaspi take a stroll on the grounds of the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral.



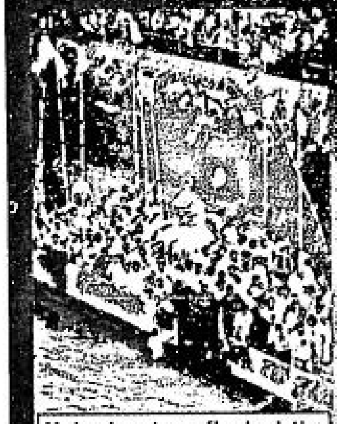
The beautiful stone facade of the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral.



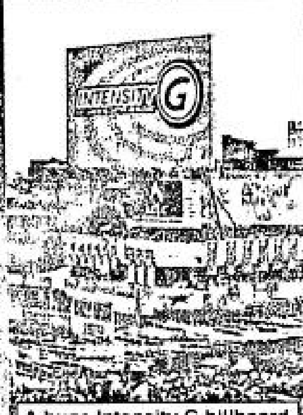
July with Globe subscriber and Peñafrancia devotee Blandina Barrameda.



The streets of Naga are alive with the sound of music.



Male devotees flanked the image of the *Peñafrancia* during the fluvial procession.

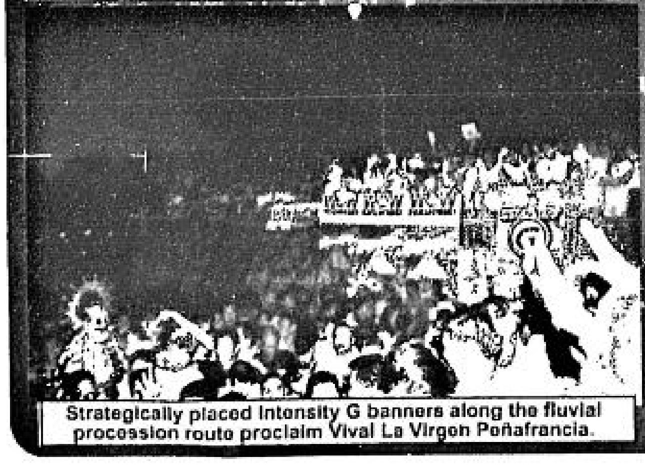


A huge Intensity G billboard overlooking the Peñafrancia fluvial procession route.

Male devotees carry the Virgin of *Peñafrancia* to her shrine at the Basilica Minore.

ANG LAKAS NG DATING NG GLOBE!

A homecoming prayer vigil at the Basilica Minore.



Strategically placed Intensity G banners along the fluvial procession route proclaim Viva! La Virgen Peñafrancia.

Naga, a city of churches and age-old universities. A bustling modern metropolis – where devotion to the Blessed Virgin of *Peñafrancia* is as intense as its passion for the good life and the *siling labuyo*. Recently, Globe's roving regional roadshow Intensity G joined devotees from the Bicol region and from other parts of the Philippines in celebration of the *Peñafrancia* Festival.

The week-long festival is a solemn religious event held annually every September to honor the feast date of the *Virgen de Peñafrancia*. During that time, devotees converge and gather at the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral to pay homage to the Patroness and Queen of the Bicol region. Included among those who paid tribute to *Ina* was popular Globe 128XL SIM endorser July. This visit afforded him a chance to make a spiritual connection, as well as to meet up with local Globe subscriber and *Peñafrancia* devotee Roy Regaspi, the renowned choirmaster of the *Cantus* Chorale, the official choir ensemble of the Naga Archdiocese.

While taking a leisurely stroll around the Cathedral, Roy told July how his fervent devotion to the Virgin resulted to a multitude of blessings both personally and professionally. At just 27 years of age, this former seminarian is already a respected musical performer, arranger, composer, a TV host, and a proud owner of a recording studio.

If Roy is totally devoted to the Virgin of *Peñafrancia*, he likewise expresses the same enthusiasm for Globe's unwavering network strength in Naga City. "Rain or shine, indoor or outdoor, in Naga City or beyond, *ang lakas talaga ng dating ng Globe!* What's more, Globe's International Roaming service allows me to make and receive phone calls from my parents in New Jersey, USA. With Globe, I always have a strong signal!"

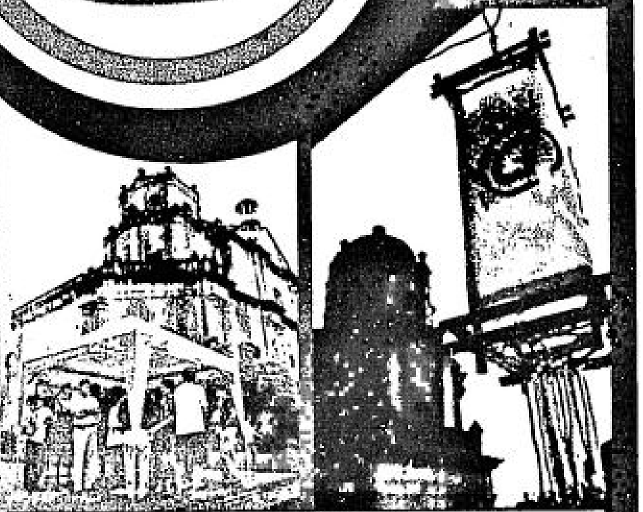
Globe's wide network of cellsites in Naga gives it unparalleled strength in the city and nearby surroundings. This allows both local and visiting Globe subscribers to enjoy a wide array of Globe services such as voice calls, SMS and MMS without fail. Thus, making it possible for them to tell their friends and family of their unique *Peñafrancia* experience through their Globe Handyphone anytime, anywhere.

The strategically located Intensity G sales blitzes gave Globe Prepaid subscribers a convenient pit stop to reload their phones with credits through AutoloadMAX or avail of the new Globe Prepaid 128XL SIM. FREE Globe Prepaid X-treme Memory SIM Swap was also offered here. And as a bonus treat, new Globe prepaid subscribers were also given a chance to join a raffle contest where they can win top of the line mobile handsets from Nokia and Samsung.

Locals and visitors desiring to take a breather from the solemnity of the festival trooped to the various Intensity G parties and concerts at Chili Peppers, Planet B, Club M8 and LCC Mall. This entertainment extravaganza gave locals and tourists a chance to party hard to top-notch music provided by the best bands and the best DJs. And if that was not enough, concert and party-goers even went home with premium Intensity G merchandise such as caps, shirts, pens and cameras.

After local Globe subscribers and tourists alike had their fill of all the good stuff that Intensity G had prepared for them for the *Peñafrancia* Festival, they once again hit the riverside to witness the highlight of the celebration – the fluvial procession of the Holy Image of the *Peñafrancia* and the *Divino Rostro* on the Naga River. Intensity G, via its numerous banners scattered along the processional route, joined devotees in proclaiming *Viva La Virgen!*

The Peñafrancia Festival is a unique celebration which shows off the unique faith and culture of the *Bicolanos*. This festival allowed Intensity G to be better connected with its Globe subscribers in Naga and beyond.



Intensity G at the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral.

July signs autographs at the Intensity G sales blitz at the LCC Mall

FESTIVAL
GLOBE

Local band Quarter Past Three rocks the crowd at the Intensity G concert at the LCC Mall.

INTENSITY G

Beautiful Naga girls having fun with July onstage at Planet B.

Locals and Globe subscribers have a good time at Chili Peppers.

July connects with a local Globe subscriber at an Intensity G party in Club M8

INTENSITY G

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Editor Marge C. Enriquez

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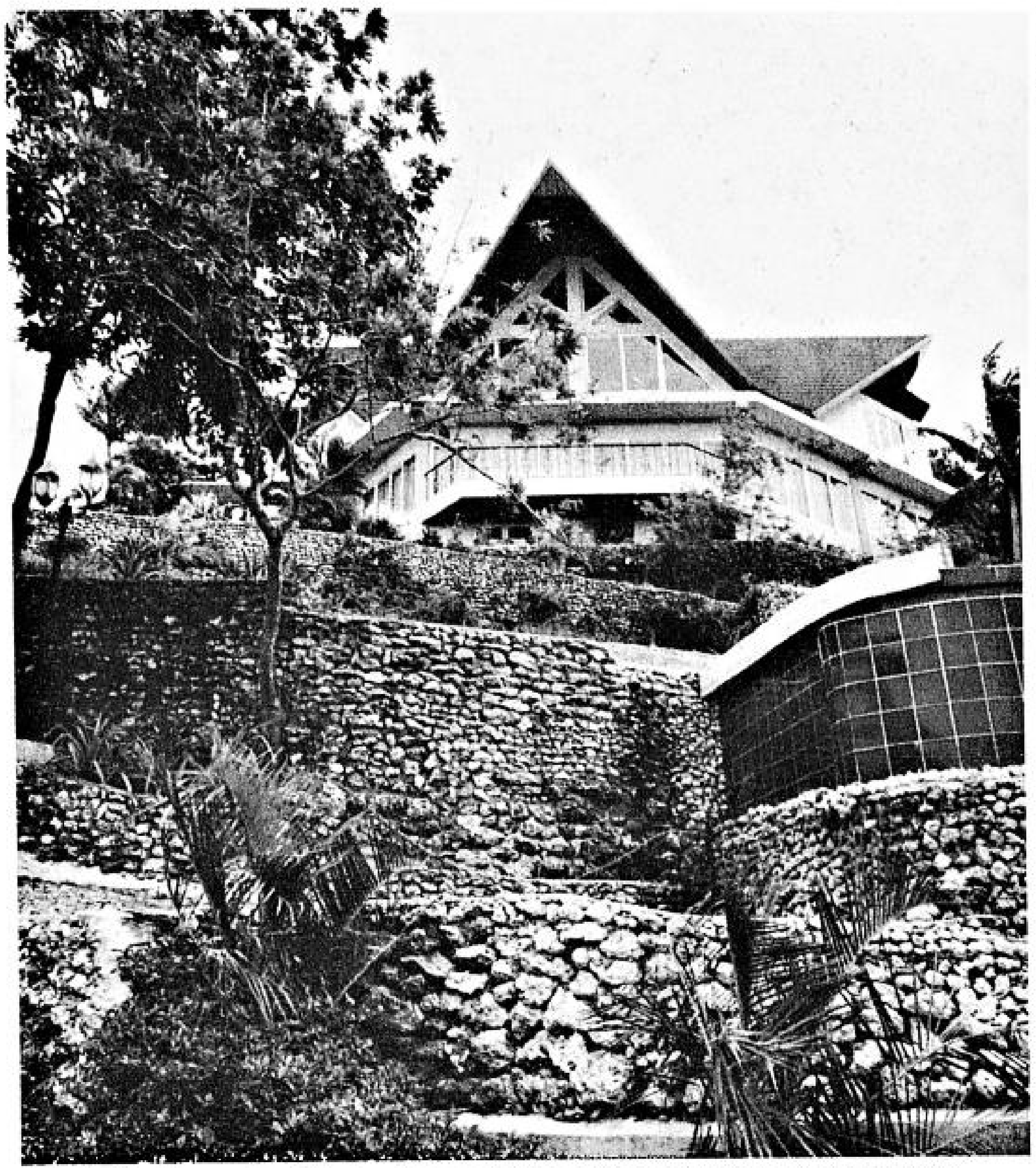

SCENE of the heinous crime. What assailant would take that long, arduous climb to La Dolce Vita? The Thai-inspired peak roofs were the unique elements of the architecture.

Breaking the silence

By Marge C. Enriquez

"WHY are you doing this?" asked the bewildered widow of a victim of a heinous crime.

Her lawyer was also in disbelief.

Josephine "Josi" Forstenhaeusler finally broke her silence, months after the brutal killing of her husband, **Anton**, his guests and the maid at their home in Boracay.

The public was shocked because the scene of the crime had as much news value as the prominence of the foreigners. Boracay is arguably the most famous "brand" in the Philippines. Spending three days there is more expensive than a package tour to Hong Kong. For so long, visitors held the impression that no crime outside of petty thefts could ever be committed there. But an ever-increasing consumerist culture, influx of domestic and international tourists, and a colorful expatriate community have changed all that.

Josi had refused interviews for her own protection. When we met at her office, she and her lawyer asked why I was interested in the story.

The takeoff

It all started last May. As I was leaving the INQUIRER, I bumped into journalist **Teddy Montelibano** (ÉLAN's regular contributor) and **Allen Mojica**, a consultant for Asian Spirit which flew the victims' relatives to Boracay. They were escorting **Patrick Gordon Higgs**, 42, who was making press rounds. Higgs wanted to set the record straight regarding the front-page story last May 25 on the police manhunt for two Britons questioned in the massacre of three foreigners and a Filipino maid in a Boracay mansion. He was questioned by the police, but was later cleared.

"There's no manhunt. I'm just doing what I've always done, run my business and take care of my friends," said the 42-year-old owner of a restaurant-bar on the island. Higgs accompanied the local authorities when they discovered the dead bodies. Forstenhaeusler was a regular customer in his restaurant-bar.

As fate would have it, there was no reporter around, so city editor **Gerry Lirio** asked me to write the story. Although crime and law was out of my turf (isn't that obvious in ÉLAN?) I dutifully interviewed Higgs and filed my story.

I was not particularly happy with the story because it read more like an affidavit, if more grammatical and stylish, that one would provide the NBI. It was good that it never saw print. Also, there were inaccuracies in that article.

ÉLAN steps out of character in pursuit of the truth about the Labor Day weekend massacre

In addition, most of the stories on the slayings came only from the official source—the police authorities. Spellings of foreigners' surnames were inconsistent and confusing, and the facts were incomplete. Yet the Boracay murder became the hottest topic of conversation at lunches and dinners. Many Filipinos had known of Forstenhaeusler and a guest, **Manfred Schoeni**. Some had shopped at Schoeni's antiques shop on Hollywood Road in Hong Kong. Some even recalled that Forstenhaeusler had been around since the 1970s and had been dating Filipinas. I heard information piecemeal.

Last August, two resorts in Boracay invited me to do some travel-trade stories. I also met up with Higgs who brought the photographer and myself to La Dolce Vita. We were only allowed to shoot the premises.

Josi finally agreed to talk to INQUIRER to shed some light on her husband, including the spelling of his surname. His daughter from his first marriage insisted on the German spelling. However, Josi explained that in all the legal documents, her husband dropped the "e" after the "a" to avoid confusion. She said all their papers had always been signed, "Forstenhausler."

Stroke of luck

Call it synchronicity—contributor, **Josemari Ugarte** had also interviewed **Uwe Friesl**, a suspect, and his lawyer **Atty Jaime Flores II.**

Writing and editing these two stories turned out to be complicated and tedious, requiring diligent crosschecking of facts. Higgs and Friesl complained of the so-called "ineptness" of the local authorities in handling the case. There were some information that needed to be verified. Who could we ask, if three of the construction workers who worked on Forstenhaeusler's swimming pool had been coerced by electrocution into making a confession? Was Friesl just a fall guy? How "big-time" had Schoeni been in Hong Kong and China? I went through the hassle of asking the NBI to call the PNP and the prosecutor's office in Aklan and Iloilo to get more hard facts on the investigation. As a matter of policy, the authorities refused to comment.

Our stories recount the Labor Day weekend, what happened to Uwe and Josi during the time of the killing. But going back to the question: why was ÉLAN in pursuit of this?

I checked my conscience hoping that it wasn't the ego of doing a Vanity Fair-type of mystery or getting a scoop. (A scoop means to get exclusive information from an immediate source or to get the better of other media organizations. Nowadays the meaning of a "scoop" seems to have become subjective. I remember one magazine boasting of its scoop on a fashion icon. In reality, a friend had organized interviews with some publications including INQUIRER, whose story came ahead of the magazines.) Was it because I was tired of reading about the good life in many publications that was getting too predictable?

At the end of the day, the job of the journalist—like that of the artist—is to constantly pursue the truth, inform the public of what they don't already know and to perfect the craft.

The buzz on Kris

Every Sunday morning, an entrepreneur based in Europe would remind his friend via text message to watch "The Buzz" and to report on what **Kris Aquino** wore. Asked why the fervent fashion watch? The friend explained that Kris' fashion sense was evocative of the Pinoy sensibility: a heady mix of the fiesta, the baroque and the aspiration to Western glamor. Pido-Dida meets Drew Barrymore.

Bea Valdes, hailed by Manila magazines as one of the country's most beautiful and stylish women, writes her observations. I was doing a shoot for the Louis Vuitton resort collection once, and needed a model. I am enormously grateful to **Teng Roma** of Emphasis Salon for recommending her to me. Although Bea was often photographed in society pages and was admired for her flair for fashion, she felt uncomfortable during our shoot.

When I learned that she also wrote for a magazine, I asked for samples. The magazine publisher didn't appreciate her edgy style. On the other hand, I saw great potential because she took risks. I asked her to be more reportorial, and I was surprised with the results.

Bea would apologize that she was not a natural, unlike her brother **Martin**, who writes fast and beats deadline. But she takes pains to buy books, research and do interviews. Then she lets the information stew in her mind. And she has the gift of perspective, which makes for interesting writing.

Now I'm glad that when people talk about Bea, it's no longer about her China doll looks. They are noticing her other, no less major, qualities, among them an intelligent yet quirky approach to writing—on any subject.

The bitter end of the sweet life

By Josemari Ugarte, *Contributor*

BORACAY, crown jewel of Philippine tourism, became the unlikely setting of ghastly multiple killings in May. Four bloodied corpses were discovered at La Dolce Vita, a sprawling 11,000 square-meter hilltop property that commands the most breathtaking view of the island and its surrounding waters.

The slayings attracted the attention of international media. In the past months, the British and German embassies have been trying to facilitate requests for interviews from foreign journalists, but the authorities have turned them down, in the same way that they have refused to give the local press any information.

Reason: the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group has filed a case of robbery with multiple homicide before the Provincial Prosecutor's Office in Kalibo, Aklan. "We are just waiting for the final filing of the case before the Regional Trial Court in Kalibo, Aklan," Gen. George Aliño, Philippine National Police director for Western Visayas, said in a telephone interview.

Update on the La Dolce Vita murders

The PNP-CIDG of Malay, Aklan has charged Uwe Friesl, a German mechanic who has lived on the island since 1989; Chito Catologo, a Filipino who was working on the property at the time; and three John Does with the deaths of Anton Forstenhaeusler, owner of La Dolce Vita Villa Resort Inc., and three others—Manfred Schoeni, a Swiss art dealer from Hong Kong who also owns the largest vineyard in South Africa; John Cowperthwaite, an English lord and architect and son of the former Finance Secretary of Hong Kong; and the housemaid, Irma Sarmiento. Schoeni was an investor in the 11-hectare La Dolce Vita. He had brought Cowperthwaite for an ocular visit. He had also come to attend a wedding at Friday's, but he never made it.

La Dolce Vita—or The Sweet Life—was a dream come true for Forstenhaeusler, a 68- year-old German national. The massive three-story mountain retreat is located in the farthest end of Barangay Bulabog. Forstenhaeusler's estate is separated from his neighbors' by thickets of shrubs and bushes. The only way to reach the house is through a long, steep, winding road that creeps up through the back road like the path to a castle.

Mean climb

After a single holiday in Boracay, Friesl had decided to make it his second home. Like many foreigners, he would spend a few months in his native country, then spend the rest of the year on the island on a tourist visa. He became a good friend of Forstenhaeuesler's three years ago, when he offered to help construct the latter's house. He would visit the house frequently with other friends of the proud owner, such as lawyer Jaime Ma. "Jimbo" Flores II, who spent a year there as a dive master.

They all enjoyed visiting but dreaded the steep uphill climb. A golf cart with two passengers couldn't make it up that road; one of them had to get off and walk. Despite his age, Anton braved the climb to his house every day just to be with the workers. He was a jovial, generous, larger-than-life character who quickly made friends, especially among the low-profile members of the European expat community, among them Friesl and Jurgen Schatzle, German fishermen who shared a workshop and a hardware store. Schatzle is a German mining engineer married to a Filipina, who built a house in Bulabog in 1998.

One night, Schatzle invited Friesl and Forstenhaeusler over to his house for a lobster dinner. Then off they went gallivanting around the island's jungle of *tiki* bars, beer gardens and beach parties. That was the night Anton announced that he wanted to retire in Boracay and buy a house with the most spectacular view of the island and ocean. His friends dismissed this as

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The widow's story

By Marge C. Enriquez
Photos by Bobot Meru

Josi Forstenhaeusler still has to figure out who could have wanted her husband dead

PEOPLE who had long known Anton Josef Forstenhaeusler were shocked upon hearing of the brutal murders on his property, La Dolce Vita, on Boracay Island. No one could say anything negative about the generous and mild-mannered expatriate.

Recalled Peter Bichelmeir, a German businessman who once shared a house with Forstenhaeusler in San Lorenzo Village, Makati: "Not once in all those years did I see Anton act less than a hundred percent gentleman."

Patrick Higgs, a British restaurant-bar owner in Boracay remembered Forstenhaeusler as a good customer and a humble person. Even if he lived in the most scenic address on the island, he was very simple and would at times nonchalantly show his empty pockets to friends.

As of this writing, the motive for the slay of Forstenhaeusler, his two guests, and his housemaid are still unknown.

Forstenhaeusler was born on May 19, 1935 in Aalen, Germany, and was raised in Ludwigsburg state where his parents owned a laundry business. He went to business school and married in 1960. In 1963, Forstenhaeusler moved his family to the tourist region of Bad Kissigen. While studying in a hotel school, he and his wife ran a bed-and-breakfast place. He later expanded the business and opened the first Lancaster Beauty Farm in Germany. After divorcing his first wife, he moved to Asia in 1976. Filipinos who had known him since the '70s recalled that he was in the antiques business.

Anton met his future second wife, Josephine "Josi" Valentina Forstenhaeusler, about 15 years ago in her dental clinic. An immigration lawyer who was her patient had referred Anton to Josi. A specialist in orthodontics, she keenly observed every patient's profile, and found Anton's to be very striking. Aside from the physical attraction, Anton swept her off her feet with his sophistication and social literacy. He brought her to fancy restaurants and regaled her with stories of his travels and experiences. On weekends, Anton would fly Josi and some friends to the beaches from Ilocos to Palawan in his six-seater Beechcraft, until he sold it in 1994.

Perfect spot

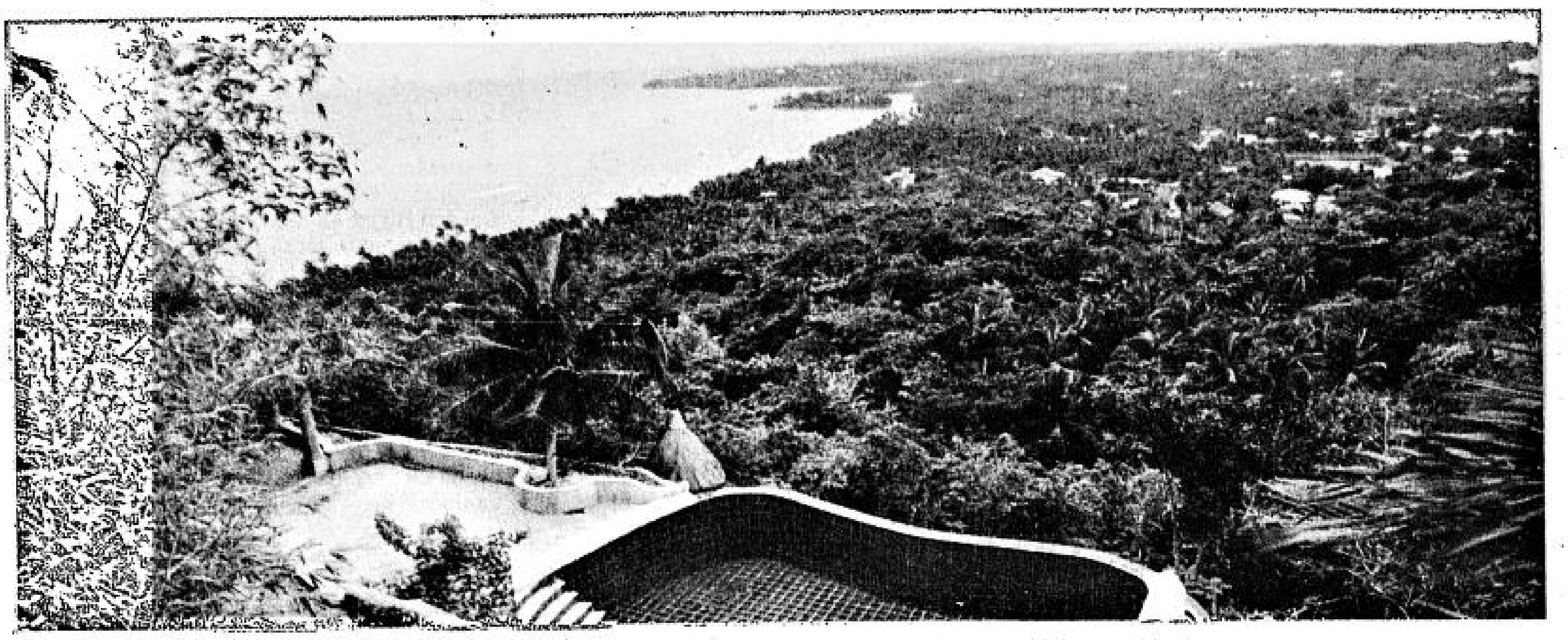
He was 28 years her senior, and Josi, (who looks younger than her 41 years), revered him for his wisdom which was indisputable, his decisiveness, and his honesty. In the course of this courtship, Anton admitted to Josi that he had been seeing someone else. Josi was hurt and broke off with him. Months later, Anton called from Hong Kong, seeking her forgiveness and pleading for a second chance. It was his transparency that convinced her of his sincerity. From their first date, Anton had been very open about his life. "He was never afraid to show his feelings," she said.

They were married in 1996, and spent their honeymoon in Europe. When they returned to the Philippines, Anton pursued his dream of settling down on an island. After a thorough search, he found the perfect spot on the highest peak on Boracay. Four years ago, the Forstenhaeuslers bought the 10,686 sq.m. lot in Sitio Bolabog, Barangay Balabag from the Coching family.

"Everybody says it's got the most beautiful view of Boracay and my husband wanted to see the sunset and sunrise, which is why the house was positioned so high up," said Josi. The property is registered under a corporation, La Dolce Vita Boracay Resort Villas Inc., of which Josi owns 60 percent. The remaining 40 percent is divided between Anton and his daughter Mirjam Forstenhaeusler-Sheldon. By law, a Filipino should control the majority stakes.

While the house was being built, the Forstenhaeuslers stayed with a friend. Josi would shuttle between Boracay and Manila to attend to her dental practice. "The construction of the house was time-consuming and costly because my husband did not want to compromise on his ideas. He himself worked tirelessly, overseeing every little aspect of the construction. We moved in even before the house was finished. Now, after four years, work still remains to be done inside the house. We were both very proud of what we had achieved," said Josi.

The house is furnished with basic necessities, the only luxuries being the kitchen which Forstenhaeusler—a mean cook and a gracious host—insisted on, and the jacuzzis in the master bathroom and guest bathroom.



THE BEST panoramic view of the island. The workers preferred to work on the pool late in the day to avoid the scorching heat.

Bichelmeir's wife, Ann Marie recalled: "If you think of the logistics of this project, building in Boracay on top of a mountain, bringing all the (building) materials from Manila, this was truly an extraordinary feat!"

Anton's vision was to divide the property into 10 lots of 1,000 sq.m. each—spacious enough for a big house and a garden—and sell them to foreigners who also wanted to settle on the island. To attract buyers, he prioritized work on the landscaping and the communal area. "The first lot was sold quickly, but after that, Anton had to change his strategy and decided to sell smaller homes and apartments to make it more affordable. He called them 'apartment suites,' like those in Cote d'Azur and Cannes," said Josi.

Swiss art dealer Manfred Schoeni, a longtime business partner, visited the Forstenhaeuslers a few times and offered his own ideas. Anton fancied Balinese architecture and wanted to incorporate some such elements into his home. Schoeni recommended Hong Kong-based British architect John Copperthwaite.

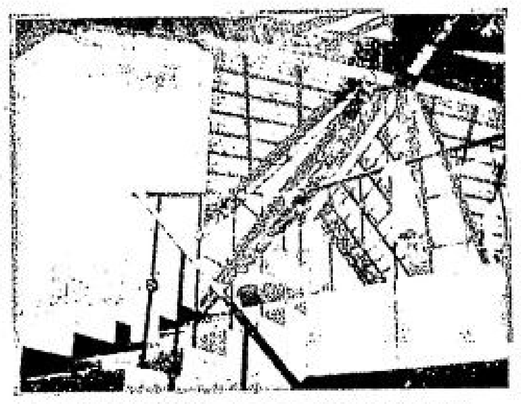
Countdown

On May 1, while Josi was on a bus to Zambales, she spoke to Anton a few times over her mobile phone. He mentioned that he had settled his financial obligations and that the workers on the pool were already fully paid. At 3 p.m., he called her from a boat to Caticlan, saying he was about to fetch Schoeni and Copperthwaite. The last call he placed was at 10:34 p.m. Anton apologized for disturbing her rest and said he would call again the next day.

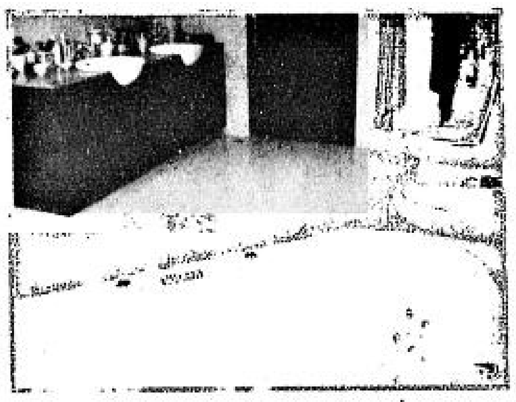
In the morning of May 3, Josi headed for Manila. All morning, she tried calling the mobiles of Anton and the maid Irma Sarmiento, as well as the land lines at their house. She did not get any answers. Josi tried to trace her husband's whereabouts in Boracay. When she managed to get in touch with a family friend, Juergen Schatzle, he told her he was outside La Dolce Vita. The house was quiet, he said, and the curtains were drawn. Schatzle decided to walk around the house to investigate and told Josi he would call her back. Josi became anxious. When she called him again, Schatzle said he was standing outside the bathroom window and that he could see Anton sprawled on the floor. All the doors were locked. Schatzle called the police.

At 6 p.m. Josi called Schatzle again. It was his friend, Higgs, who picked up. "Anton is dead," Higgs said. "Everybody is dead."

(As the police examined the premises, Higgs asked Josi if valuables were missing from the house. Josi would later tell the INQUIRER that some of the stolen items included a gold chain around Anton's neck, money stashed under the bed, his wallet and a cordless phone. Some of his guest's possessions had also been taken.)



THE UNFINISHED loft as seen from a window



LUXURY: Jacuzzi in the bathroom

Shocked by the news, Josi refused to watch television or listen to any news of the Boracay massacre.

"My husband had no enemies in Boracay," she told the INQUIRER in Filipino. "The construction workers all liked him. He paid them better than the other employers there. He was appreciative of hardworking people. He gave them dignity even if they were laborers."

Asked why they didn't hire a security guard, the widow replied that Boracay was so peaceful that they never thought it necessary. The couple had a Rhodesian Ridgeback but since Schoeni was afraid of dogs, Forstenhaeusler had tied it up that night.

"In the beginning, we were afraid," Josi said. "We had no maid—it was just the two of us. We would lock the windows and double check. After a while, we felt there was no need to be afraid. There had not been any incident of this sort before. The locals were nice to us. The garbage collectors were my husband's best friends because he drove for them sometimes."

Indeed, the locals had been amused to see a foreigner collecting the garbage. He would even serve refreshments to the workers who built his pool.

"Ordinary people respected him. Why would you think he'd be harmed?" Josi wondered.

Second life

Bichelmeir added: "I remember Josi bringing pipes and fittings at 5 a.m. to the port of Manila. I would call Anton about once a week in Boracay in the last few years and invariably he would tell me he was exhausted from working on his house from sunrise to sunset. He would have told me if he had been in a fight or made enemies. So this crime came as a total shock."

Josi recalled that during her birthday last February, Anton had cheated death. He was driving his pick-up truck in which he carried building material, when it overturned and an iron bar hit his back. "A few millimeters and he would have been dead," she said. "We were celebrating his second life."

FORSTENHAEUSLER in 1996. Looking younger than his 61 years at the time

Anton never reached his 69th birthday on May 19. After the news of the Boracay slay that happened between May 1 and 2, there were speculations about the motives for the crime, including a love triangle, and wild talk that Josi was the sole beneficiary of all the properties.

Josi was linked to Uwe Friesl, a German national who was tagged a suspect, and Higgs, both of whom she said she knew only casually. Her lawyers issued a statement clarifying the ownership of La Dolce Vita, which included Anton's daughter.

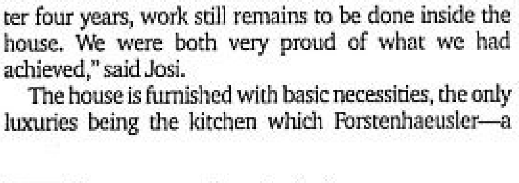
"I have a love-hate feeling towards Boracay. I love the place because we—my husband especially—put out all our energy there. He said this would be our home. I hate it because of what happened to my husband," said Josi.

The construction on the pool and patio area have been completed, but no one is allowed entry. The grounds are patrolled by a security company and maintained by caretakers. Meanwhile, the victims' families are still in the dark. The sluggish pace of the investigation doesn't help at all.

Anton's family is offering a reward to anybody who has information regarding the slay. Contact the NBI Interpol at 536-2851, or Jomarie Villarama at 0927-6330708.

The bitter end ...

From page G1



UWE Friesl and girlfriend Janet Manila being entertained by Forstenhaeusler at La Dolce Vita

some inebriated spiel, but a month later, Anton bought the property and started construction.

"In Boracay, people lack things to do," says Flores. "So you occupy your time by meddling in your neighbor's activities. So when people found out that Anton was building a house, his close friends started frequenting the site to "make *usyoso* (to snoop)."

During this time, Friesl and Anton became very close. Friesl helped Anton out with the construction, but there was no formal arrangement, no employer-employee contracts involving money.

By Friesl's account, at 5 p.m. on May 3, he and Schatzle were together when they received a long-distance call from Manila from Anton's wife, Josephine. Among Anton's friends, the two lived the closest to La Dolce Vita. Josephine sounded anxious; she said she hadn't been able to contact her husband in two days.

Friesl and Schatzle went to the house and found it locked up, all the windows shut. They knocked on the door and called out Anton's name, but got no answer. They walked around to the back of the house, near his bathroom. They looked through the bay window and saw Anton on the floor.

Hoping Anton might still be alive, the two looked for an open door or window. They found none. Through one of the windows, however, they saw the housemaid in her room, lying face down in a pool of blood.

At this point, they decided to contact the police, as well as Friesl's close friend Patrick Higgs, an Englishman who moved to the island in 1997, renovated Bazura bar into Paradiso and opened a Mediterranean restaurant, Attica, on the beachfront. He was also a drinking buddy of the island police. An hour later, the police arrive with Higgs. They searched around the house and found a small kitchen window that was open—but they were too scared to enter.

Friesl recalls that after a full hour of head-scratching and finger-pointing, Higgs finally convinced the cops to enter the house and investigate. He and three policemen climbed the side wall, entered through the open kitchen window, and opened the front door. The other policemen then walked in and asked Friesl and Schatzle to join them so they could identify the bodies. "When we walked in," Friesl claims, "We did not see any footprints on the floor—except, of course, ours.

The house was not in any kind of disarray, except for the master bedroom, where there seemed to have been a struggle. The bed was turned upside down, drawers were emptied, and some clothes were scattered on the floor. But "not a big mess," notes Friesl. "Everybody still had their rings and jewelry on, and we saw some wallets." The scene looked like a smash-and-grab job, a robbery—but a fairly neat one, he said, considering that the perpetrators had used a carving knife and a bread knife to kill four people.

The bread knife used on Anton came from his own kitchen. He sustained a dozen stab wounds. It seemed there was a brutal struggle before the knife finally hit a main artery. The other victims had three or four stabs each.

Cowperthwaite was apparently doing a crossword puzzle on the floor next to his bed when the intruder entered and nearly decapitated him with three blows to the neck. His head was the only one covered with a towel. The other two victims were found in their beds, killed presumably while they were sleeping.

The Aklan-PNP handled the initial investigation, but Forstenhaeusler's widow later requested a parallel investigation by the NBI.

A single footprint

Friesl is being represented by Atty. Edgar Calizo in Kalibo, but Flores is representing him in Manila. Flores maintains that the PNP's only piece of evidence against Friesl is a bloody footprint in the bathroom where the murder weapons were found. The lawyer protests: "First, everyone who knows Uwe knows that he always walks around the island barefoot, so his footprints are all over the place. Second, he was a regular visitor at La Dolce Vita and he always came barefoot. Thirdly, he was the first barefoot person they brought into the house after the bodies were discovered. Naturally, his footprints were all over the place. But here is the real remarkable thing about the evidence—there is only one footprint, a right foot, near the wash basin where the knives were found."

On the night of the murders, just like any other night, Friesl claims, he was out bar-hopping till four in the morning. He has all the cocktail receipts and witness affidavits to prove this. At least 15 people are willing to swear under oath that they either spoke to, danced or drank with Friesl during the approximate time of the slayings. The PNP maintains he was at the crime scene, where he stepped on the victim's blood and left the single print.

Flores obtained a copy of the evidence presented by the PNP to the prosecutor's office. "I showed it to Sig Tabayoyong, a retired NBI forensics expert. He doesn't think that's even blood on the footprint. He also finds it strange that there were no other prints going to or coming from the bathroom," the lawyer says.

Soon after, the Germany Embassy intervened by providing DNA testing kits to help expedite the investigation. Flores says the only conclusion that the PNP has drawn from the DNA testing is that the killer was male.

Friesl also says the PNP found a stuffed duffel bag thrown down a ravine in the back of the house. "The bag was fully packed—with Manfred Schoeni's passport and ticket sticking out. After the bag was confiscated by the police, they told us there was nothing in it besides the ticket and passport, and that no fingerprints were found on it."

As of this writing, Flores says, "The PNP has lifted three sets of fingerprints from the bag, but so far they have not been able to identify those. I believe that the three unidentified prints are the key to the whole mystery. If the owners of the prints are found, then the right person can be charged."

Friesl and his lawyer have filed a counter-affidavit and are now waiting for the prosecution to file a resolution to determine probable cause. Flores has sought a clarificatory hearing, in which he intends to pose questions to the police officers regarding the handling of the investigation.

According to the PNP report: "Friesl was also seen together with unknown foreigners being scolded by Forstenhausler [sic] near the Bay View Hill Store around four o'clock in the afternoon of April 30, and embarrassment can be seen from their faces as they were being scolded."

Friesl has a ticket proving that he was on a Boracay-bound Super Ferry at the time.

Speculations

There are numerous speculations as to the motive for the killings. One is the wild talk that Forstenhaeusler had all his money stashed in the house instead of a bank. There is also the property angle. Since La Dolce Vita was in arguably the best location in Boracay, some quarters supposedly coveted it.

Friesl does not even think Forstenhaeusler was the target. It is quite possible, he says, that the targets were one or both of the guests. "You wouldn't plan a hit on someone during a weekend when he had house guests. Anton had lived there for four years, alone most of the time. The house is completely isolated. They could have hit Anton any other night. Why choose that night?" Friesl says.

Another speculation is that it was a hit hatched abroad—against one of the two guests, perhaps over a botched deal. Anything is possible, Flores points out.

PENCHANT for bold, graphic shirts

KRIS loves bright colors and shoulder-baring designs.

SHOWING off her 36B bosom

On a Kris Aquino fashion watch

By Bea Valdes
Contributor

WHEN Sunday afternoon is about to die, it occurs to me that it is time. I resurface from inertia and locate the remote control. With a click and a smile, I am tuned in to the clash of the titans. Or as my brother prefers to call it, the crash of the Titanic.

We sit together, my brother and I, bleary-eyed and bewitched, bound by some tragic-comic voodoo. Heeding what feels like the macabre magnetism of a vehicular accident, we have no choice: we park the channel on "The Buzz."

He yelps with pain and I grin like a mad woman while we listen to the words tumbling out of Pandora's vox.

In this age of reality TV, it does not get any more real than Kris. Miss Aquino is forever harnessed unto Pinoy pop culture. Her voice is super-glued to our collective memory.

We witnessed her passion oxidize in front of us; followed her "Love in the Time of Game Ka na Ba." We still hold our breath as she continues to dismantle convention—like Oprah on steroids, beating with the same definitive pulse, but with double the emotion. Maybe they share the same sound byte of "petulant, powerful, influenced by nobody, influencing all ..."

I sit there transfixed. I am fascinated. Utterly.

I know I am not the only one watching.

Experience as commodity

She embodies a culture of experience as a commodity. She is her own economy, her own event-scene, possessing her specific ritual scenarios. In between misadventures with text and textiles, she can activate, draw out emotions, not just on a level of one to one, but one to thousands. It is her brand of pluck, that anarchist fearlessness, the predilection towards public pronouncements, then public apologies, that we have bought in to. But then again, the gene for risk-taking despite any and all consequence is definitely in her, what with a mother who was the first woman president, and a father who is a national hero.

She wears her heart on her sleeve. And her imagination is pinned on it like an oversized corsage. "Fashion," writes JG Ballard, "'is a recognition that nature has endowed us with one skin too few, and that a fully sentient being should wear its nervous system externally."

And that Kris does.

Rajo Laurel explains two things about Kris' manner of dressing. The first is her love affair with color. Tailoring may be the intellect of clothing, but color is the emotion of fashion.

"She began wearing it when no one else was. And the brighter the better!" Rajo says. "She really was the one who made our eyes accustomed to it."

This is true, in so far as she did begin to ripple the murky recesses of the '80s minimalism with flair for fluorescent. Over the years, she has stretched the boundaries of chromatic choices. From the darkness, there came light. It was bright, blinding, and occasionally pink.

Acceptance through familiarity

"Another thing about Kris," Rajo adds: "When she likes something, she can order it in every color." He remembers a three-fourths-sleeved trench coat in multiple shades. "By the time she had run through the whole set, the televiewers eyes had become familiar with the shape, and accepted it."

Having demonstrated that something can be done, she then moves on. Plus, Rajo says, "she is on TV every weekday, Sundays on 'The Buzz,' and now with her new telenovela ..."

It is a very effective, if inadvertent, marketing tool. Miss Aquino is reactionary. There is no middle ground. There are very few people who have that effect on the audience, Rajo insists. "And if you think about it, there is something very contemporary about her situation. She is a single mom; a woman who supports herself. Then, she goes through these public storms, (I prefer to think of them as monsoon rains), and that is a lot to wake up to every morning."

We've watched her from her teenybopper years, and the truth is, this has been the best she's ever looked.

"Plus, the amazing thing is that she is always evolving, you can see that she is much more secure in her way of dressing and that she can now experiment with different shapes. She tries new materials; you can sense a certain maturity ..."

> We hold our breath as she continues to dismantle convention—like Oprah on steroids, beating with the same definitive pulse, but with double the intensity

Evolution or revolution?

This same theme of evolution and reactions is expressed by Anton San Diego, editor of Philippine Tatler, which featured Kris on the cover of a strong-selling issue. He explains that the interest in her is "across the board," however you may feel about her. Moreover, people do not just have an intellectual opinion about her; there is always emotion attached to it. Mention of her name and you get a rawer, more personal, response than that elicited by Imelda or Gloria.

Maybe it's not an evolution, but a revolution.

Inno Sotto, who has lately been dressing her up for "The Buzz," muses that what many people earlier put down as "tactlessness," they now "come to realize as unadulterated, unedited honesty." This, in his opinion, makes her "a very powerful, believable, reliable endorser [of commercial products]."

Consumers really do think that she would support nothing that she thought was bad. She will not sugarcoat her fashion experience; instead, she will live it before our eyes. I did hear that in one episode of "The Buzz," where she looked straight into the camera and expressed her bewilderment over how to get into a certain blouse.

As fashion is the "supreme expression of the contemporary spirit," one can say that the flesh may be peeking, and thus the spirit is brave. A couple of Sundays ago, I did try to tune in to "research on her way of dressing." Unfortunately, she was not on. But John Lapus was wearing couture. Her powers are strong.

Loyalty beyond reason

Women's Wear Daily, in its issue of April 2004, said: "Consumers identify with brands largely through emotion." Emotional branding is what larger companies try to capitalize on. Institutions like Gap are using Madonna, Missy Elliot and Sarah Jessica Parker in their new advertisements. The emotion that they are trying to capture is love.

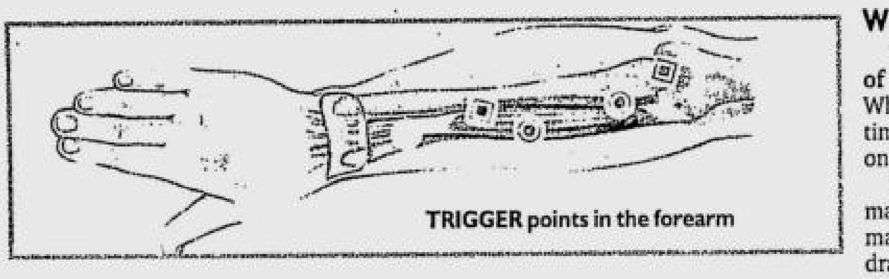
"Because love is about action." Love drives you crazy. Impulse purchases are usually based on emotion. Love is that rollercoaster that renders some committed and others nauseous. This tool is employed in the fashion businesses that target the broader consumer base. It is about capitalizing on empathy, on an existing intimacy. It is what worldwide Saatchi & Saatchi executive tags as "loyalty beyond reason." This may explain why Kris is one of Bench's strongest sellers. Anything she wears from the brand, fans snap up.

Having been deprived of television for about a year, I found myself face to face for the first time with the buzz of that four o'clock habit. My anticipation was focused on seeing whether Kris still sported that hair color my mother had pronounced as "magenta." I turned the television on. Her hair was a dark, rich black; shampoo advert-perfect. I was slightly disappointed. And strangely happy and relieved. For her. I have not figured out why I cared. But I did.

Could be a ... muscle knot?

By Dr. Martin Camara
Contributor

Chest pains do not necessarily signal a heart attack



TRIGGER points in the forearm

DR. JANET Travell, President Kennedy's personal physician at the White House was perplexed by the number of patients coming in with chest pain (angina) normally associated with a heart attack. Their symptoms were classic—pain in the chest running down the left arm and up towards the jaw. What was causing it?

This led to the discovery of what we now call Myofascial Pain Syndromes (MPS). Travell discovered something in these patients' pectoral (chest) muscle that was causing the symptoms. She went on to pioneer research in the field of MPS, defining the syndrome as a muscle disorder in one part of the body that is characterized by sore or tender spots composed of taut bands of muscle.

In layman's terms, MPS is "knots in our muscles." Our *masahista* might say, *napasukan ng lamig*; and our *hilot*, "*naipitan ng ugat*.

A knot, or trigger point, is a small patch of muscle that is deprived of nerve impulses and circulation, and is starving for nutrients and soaking in stagnant tissue fluids. This can also be called "sick muscle syndrome," and can cause and/or mimic myriad ailments and pains. Aside from a heart attack ...

1) Toothache may be caused by MPS in the neck muscles.

2) Sciatica or pain in the leg may be due to MPS in the buttocks

3) Appendicitis pain may be caused by MPS in the abdominal muscles

4) Migraines or headaches may be caused by MPS in the sub-occipital muscles

5) Carpal Tunnel Syndrome may be caused by MPS under the armpit.

However, the vast majority of symptoms caused by MPS are really simple and familiar aches and pains—sore back, shoulders and neck. Experienced chiropractors, massage and physical therapists are often able to recognize and treat this condition because of their extensive hands-on experience. It can only be diagnosed by feel.

Where do they come from?

1) **Trauma to the muscle as a result of car accidents or sporting injuries.** What makes this difficult to see sometimes is that the trauma can precede the onset of pain by weeks or even months.

2) **Frequent exposure to cold.** In my many years of chiropractic practice, many patients will attribute the air-con draft hitting them directly while they sleep or work as the main culprit behind their pain. They may be right after all. It seems those who constantly cover themselves up with a shawl or jacket instinctively know that they are saving themselves a lot of discomfort.

3) **Structural or mechanical problems of the body.** One leg or side of the hip is shorter than the other, or the second toe of the foot is longer than the first toe. These ultimately create trigger points in different areas of the body.

4) **A tight bra strap.** Long periods of compression impede normal circulation to the musculature of the back and chest.

5) **Overwork and fatigue.**

We are all familiar with muscle knots. They feel like a bump of hard tissue within a tight strap of muscle. When you ask a friend to dig into that spot in your back, or when the *masahista* runs her hand over a spot that is excruciatingly tender, *that* is the trigger point, exactly. Trigger point bumps range in size from a grain of sand to a golf ball.

Trigger points hurt when pressed, but often in a strangely pleasant way—what myotherapists, physical therapists and chiropractors call "good pain." That's not a euphemism; the quality of the sensation really can be both unusual and desirable. In fact, most people crave more pressure on the point than is recommended. With sustained but moderate pressure, the tenderness gradually fades and the knot seems to melt or unravel. This is called the "release" of the trigger point, and it is the goal of therapy.

Referred-pain phenomenon

The key to the importance of MPS is an unexplained phenomenon called "referred pain."

Trigger points frequently cause sensation in other locations. For instance, if I press on a trigger point in your neck muscles, you may feel a clear sensation behind your eye—perhaps exactly like the headaches you get every week or so. Other patients' hands go numb when I press on a trigger point on their shoulder; others feel pain in the knee when I press on a trigger point on the heel.

How do we free ourselves from them?

Medication will make you feel better, but only temporarily. After the medicines wear off, you will still be left with the underlying problem. When you have a physical problem, physical intervention is preferred.

Deep pressure work eases the trigger point, combined with deep breathing techniques and conscious relaxation on the part of the patient. Sessions with a skilled practitioner should be sufficient for lasting relief, sustained by home care with heat, hot water showers and gentle stretching. Other persistent problems may require more aggressive therapy, such as acupuncture or needling over the trigger point, or even injections of lidocaine or steroid into the trigger point by an orthopedist.

In my long years of chiropractic practice, I have heard numerous patients trivialize their complaints by dismissing them as "just muscular." They don't seem to realize that the muscular system comprises approximately 60 percent of the body.

If we waste energy on account of muscles being contracted or knotted for no reason at all, that leaves less energy for our bodies to perform other functions—such as warding off infections, balancing hormones, and maintaining our state of equilibrium. This is why people with chronic back problems are more prone to infections and wake up after a full night's rest still feeling tired. Obviously, their muscles were knotted the whole time.

A healthy muscular system is essential to our general well-being.

For any questions, please email drmartin@intercare-centers.com

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Turn on the light

The deft artists who run this cutting-edge salon believe everyone is innately beautiful

ONCE a multi-tasking beautician in a neighborhood parlor in Cavite, Eric Maningat now holds a corporate title—artistic director and vice-president for marketing of Trendset Corporation.

The company, headed by businessperson Yvette Ilagan and her siblings, runs the new Studio 546 (tel. no. 638-3956) at the Wellness Zone of Shangri-la Plaza Mall. The name is taken after the number of the unit. It's a salon that offers a Zen-like ambience. Yet the rates are affordable.

Maningat studied cosmetology and hair science at Slim's. For 12 years, he worked in beauty parlors in Manila and Cavite. In the mid '90s, he met designer Rey Francisco, who introduced him to makeup artist Edwin Aguilar. He assisted Aguilar in a two-day magazine shoot. On the second day, Aguilar could not make it, leaving Maningat on his own. The editorial team was impressed by his deft hands—his precise makeup strokes and expert hair styling. He met photographer Wig Tysmans, who invited him to another shoot.

Clad in his usual working attire, Maningat climbed into Tysmans' van on the appointed day. He was surprised to find that the shoot was for a portrait of President Fidel Ramos and his family.

Since then Maningat has worked with such great talents in makeup as Henri Calayag, Jingky Illusorio and Patrick Rosas. As an assistant to Rosas, Maningat worked with fashion designers Auggie Cordero, Inno Sotto and other participants in the Fashion Watch series such as Jesus Lloren and Eddie Baddeo. Maningat then developed his own clientele, so that even Rajo Laurel started recommending him to his clients.

Maningat also became one of the favorites of photographers Raymund Isaac, Patrick Uy, Xander Angeles and Denise Weldon. Because of his sweet and easy nature, everybody loved working with him. Despite his enormous talent, Maningat has remained humble.

For a black-and-white portrait, he made Donita Rose's her eyes smokey, and her lips dark, shiny, and prominent. Pops Fernandez he made to look like an exotic Oriental doll with straight bangs and pencil-straight hair. For magazine covers, Maningat has dolled up Cindy Kurleto, Daphne Oseña, Nanette Medved-Po, Cher Calvin, Vanessa del Bianco, Korina Sanchez, Vivienne Tan, Gretchen Barretto, Mikee Cojuangco, Giselle Toengi, Assunta de Rossi, KC Concepcion and Kristine Hermosa.

Maningat's range goes from the nude look to fantasy, with matching hairstyles. He said that these days, competition is stiff, owing to the huge number of professional makeup artists. The only way for him to go, he said, was corporate—and making Studio 546 succeed.

Another talent in Studio 546's pool is Bing Acuña, senior stylist and hair coloring technician. Acuña always strives to learn every aspect of his craft. He started working for Thomas Wong's salon, then moved to Lauria at Robinsons' Galleria, where he learned more about hair science through seminars organized by famous brands. Then he moved to Hairbytes.

Acuña endears himself to clients because of his dedication. He once joined the Hacap competition and was chosen one of Ten Outstanding Stylists in the men's division. His entry was a texturized haircut with green highlights.

He does not recommend the frosting cap method for highlights, as offered by many salons. "You are never sure of the results," he says, "because of the indiscriminate pull of the hair." He is partial to the foil method, wherein individual strands of hair are colored. "It is more precise and artistic." He showed ÉLAN a photograph of a model sporting layers of blunt cut, color-blocked in copper and plum. The effect was graphic and very cutting-edge.

Coco Villanueva started out as an entrepreneur, studied professional styling in Singapore, and enrolled at the School of Makeup. As Studio 546's creative director, her aim is to make clients happy. Her philosophy is the dictum of the salon. "Everybody is innately beautiful. I just look for that light switch, turn it on from within, and make you shine."

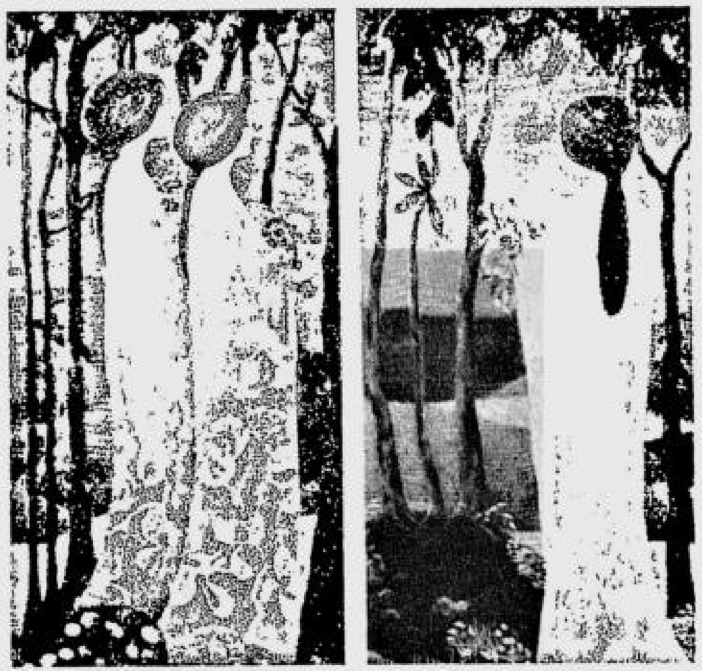
ERIC Maningat is flanked by his partners Yvette Ilagan and her sister Choc Religioso.

Through a door, seamlessly

"LIVING Art," an exhibit by artist-restaurateur Gelena "Morita" Roces, is all about expressing beauty through function. She designs unique pieces such as doors, dressers, stands for bijoux, tables and chairs, inspired by Art Deco and ethnic cultures. One of her more striking statements is a gold-painted dresser with a woman's portrait. She suggests pinning on the mirror an affirmation of looking at the self, and appreciating one's life as a work of art.

The tour de force is a door with symbolisms. The front panel depicts two nymphs on the brink of sunset, suggesting the allegory of life and the afterworld. They are ambling serenely under the canopy of trees, although no shadows lurk behind them. The image symbolizes death, not as an eclipse but as a homecoming. The message says fear of death is merely an attitude. In life, we are made to believe that time is the enemy and this is why death is seen as ominous. The back panel shows one maiden in the same garden setting, greeting the dawn. Morita sees time as the medium for creativity, a journey at the end of which there is no sense of loss. There is only a feeling of returning to the source, filled with virtues and powers. Spiritual awareness that comes with time, is coupled with the knowledge of eternity and liberation from fear. The image of the two women symbolizes the preparation for the next adventure—as seamlessly as opening the door to move from one room to the next.

"Living Art" runs through Oct. 9 at Galleria Duemila, The Artwalk, Building A, SM Megamall. Tel. no. 634-3261.



FRONT and back panels of the door, titled "Peace"

One weekend, three shows

PREDICTABLE and redundant repertoires with unimaginative dances, dictated by economics, made me want to stop doing dance reviews. Also, ever since I started producing and performing, I have found critique writing to be a very delicate matter. These days, I watch only to support my friends and do my share in giving the dance scene some coverage.

Last weekend, I had my fill of three shows. Ballet Manila's "La Bayadere," still showing this weekend at Aliw Theater is noteworthy. Artistic director and principal ballerina, Lisa Macuja-Elizalde, is pushing 40 next month. Yesterday, 40 meant "dinosaur." Today, 40 means "fit and accomplished." Watch Lisa as Nikiya, in midriff tops that expose the sculpted muscle cuts in her abs, despite having two kids. Her current interpretation is more refined and thought-out, unlike in her younger days when she had merely sought to dazzle.

Kidding aside, Ballet Manila is testament to Lisa's grit. The standard of the company is reflected in the performance of its corps de ballet. When you see boys and girls of equal proportions, thrusting their legs in the air and tilting their heads and shoulders in uniform precision, and working steely muscles in overdrive, you just know that Lisa means business.

> The dance scene is alive and predictable

That's not to say that the gala last Friday was perfect. Any old hand in theater will say there will always be some flaws, however minor, such as wobbly poses and shaky landings from some of the soloists, a corps that could use an acting workshop, and a production design that needed more perspective.

Russian guest artist Maxim Chashchegorov, who played Solor, wowed the audience with suspended leaps. Although his height was perfect for Lisa, he was still green to be partnering a ballerina of her stature. Nonetheless, the overall experience was impressive. Watch it just to see a Filipino company delivering according to international standards.

Lyrical, dramatic

From Aliw Theater, I hopped over to the Cultural Center to watch Philippine Ballet Theater's "Madame Butterfly." The attraction for most people was to hear a live orchestra with opera singers. On the upside, the strong performances came from the partnership of Katherine Sanchez and Ronilo Jaynario as Pinkerton, and character actor-danseur-ballet master, Anatoli Panasiukov as Goro.

The lyrical and dramatic role of Cio-Cio San with all the delicate gestures and fluid choreography were right up Sanchez's alley. She showed her signature emotive style—wispy ballerina of the Romantic era meets coy geisha and San Francisco modern dancer—to assert her femininity in a demure but provocative manner. The advantage is that Sanchez and Jaynario have been performing together for more than a decade, thus, the maneuverings are seamless and they are able to capture nuances in their characters' relationships.

Unlike many lead soloists plucked from obscurity, only to render a raw interpretation of their principal roles, Sanchez and her alternate, Faye Abigail Tan, worked their way slowly up the ranks until they were ripe enough. Although the PBT's technical standard remained consistently uneven, the good thing was that they were well rehearsed. But the ballet was boring, despite all the tweaking; the lighting design was dark and spotty; the costumes and sets failed to capture the richness of Japanese culture so much so that most of the audience appreciated the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra more than the PBT.

Shoestring approach

Another show to catch at 7:30 tonight is Airdance's studio performance at the Outlet Yard (1480 Quezon Avenue, Q.C.) "R-18" presents a shoestring approach to production. The works seem largely based on improvisation, wherein dancers freely discover their own unique way of moving and differentiate themselves from other companies.

On a positive note, this company wants to present alternative dance, and thus gives its budding choreographers a laboratory for experimenting—and showcasing their talents on an intimate range. The downside is that the spontaneity of the improvisations failed to excite and many works still needed tightening or a substantial structure.

The show lasts for 90 minutes, sans intermission. For 14 numbers, only two made an impression on me. Ernest Mandap's "Air," an ensemble piece of couples exploring their sexuality, and Avel Bautista's pas de deux of "Hard Day's Night."

Based in France and constantly touring the world, Mandap has kept abreast of trends. It is not just the homo-erotic undercurrent of the couplings that make his work interesting. There's always a different soloist who is like an outcast among the couples, thereby, emphasizing the ephemeral nature of human relationship.

Bautista's strength showed in following the lyrics and developing an idea with clarity and verve. Given more opportunities, he can be a communicator. *Marge C. Enriquez*

LIZA Macuja-Elizalde. Fab abs at 40

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Beyond Time, Trends & Traditions

September 25, 2004 - Saturday
3rd Floor, GERCON Plaza, Makati

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PROGRAMME

Judging	5:00 p.m.	Introduction of Guest Speaker	9:00 p.m.
Registration	5:30 p.m.	Guest Speaker	9:05 p.m.
Cocktails & Viewing of Exhibits/Auction	6:00 p.m.	Plaque/Token of Appreciation to Guest Speaker	9:30 p.m.
Mass	7:00 p.m.	Entertainment & Pre-Judging of Best Attire	9:40 p.m.
Welcome Remarks	7:30 p.m.	Best Attire Awarding & Raffle	10:30 p.m.
Dinner	7:35 p.m.	Closing Remarks & Opening of Fellowship	11:00 p.m.
Awarding	8:35 p.m	Dancing & Fun & Major Raffle Draw	11:00 p.m. onwards

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2004 ✦ 8 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5

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Makati students dominate science olympiad

RUSSEL, Daryll, and Michelle wished for a question in astronomy and won the day.

PHOTOS BY ELINE SANTOS

By Eline Santos

STUDENTS from Makati Hope Christian School dominated the quiz bee and interactive workshops of the Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs held for two weekends mid-September.

Sixth-graders Daryll Vincent Alvero, Russel Michael "Mico" Rodriguez, and Michelle Vilaruz felt happy and grateful to be the overall champions of the 2004 PSYSC Science Olympiad. It was the first time that students from almost 200 schools all over the country participated in the event.

"We were given a blessing by God," said 12-year-old Mico.

The team was actually in the bottom three during the easy round. The kids said they were still adjusting and warming up.

"In the difficult round, we exploded!" said 11-year-old Daryll.

Together with Albert Einstein School from Cotabato City, Makati Hope scored the highest in the difficult round with 90 points. Those critical points brought Makati Hope ahead of the pack, while Albert Einstein tied with UP Integrated School, Quezon City.

Tyndall Effect

With only a 10-point gap between Makati Hope and the two tied schools, the UPIS team couldn't help but recall a spelling mistake that cost them the championship–missing an "l" in the answer "Tyndall effect."

The team, composed of Giselle de la Peña, Felipe del Castillo, and Anjo Santiago, did perfect the tie-breaking round to win second place.

"In all of the sudden-death questions, we were certain of our answers," said sixth-grader Giselle.

But if they hadn't correctly guessed it would take three seismographs to locate the epicenter of an earthquake in an earlier round, things would have gone another way entirely.

While they laughed at what happened, sixth-grader Anjo emphasized, "Always check your spelling."

CARLO, Aimes, and Namssor were very happy to be in the top three.

Happy with the Journey

In third place was the Albert Einstein team composed of sixth-graders Jan Carlo Mayo, Aimes Kaitlin Ekey and Namssor Sampulna.

"We're happy," said 10-year-old Aimes.

"What was important to us was making it to the top three," added teammate Carlo.

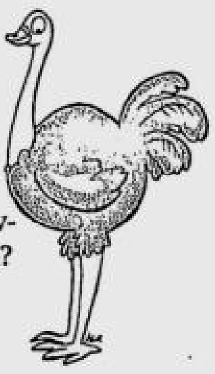
Namssor said he liked joining contests because the experience helped him learn more and add to his knowledge. For him, the journey in itself was already a

Makati students/ p. 8

Are you science whiz-kid material?

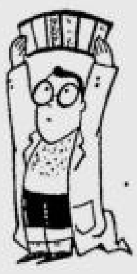
OUT of 198 students nationwide, only a bright few would come out on top of the 2004 PSYSC Science Olympiad. Try out some of the quiz questions and see if you've got what it takes to be a science whiz-kid.

1. What is the plant hormone that speeds up/slows down the growth of plant cells?
   - a. gibberline
   - b. serotonin
   - c. chlorophyll
   - d. auxin



2. What is the second-largest living bird on earth?
   - a. ostrich
   - b. emu
   - c. dodo

3. Bulimia is when a person eats a lot for fear of being too thin. True or false?



4. What is the scientific study of colors?
   - a. spectroscopy
   - b. chromatics
   - c. photometry

5. In Jan. 27, 1967, astronauts from the United States be came the first casualties of this ill-fated mission. What is the name of the space mission?
   - a. Apollo 13
   - b. Gemini 2
   - c. Apollo 1
   - d. Apollo 11

6. What is the softest mineral?

7. Name the four terrestrial planets.

8. What do you call the study of the depths of the ocean?
   - a. oceanography
   - b. bathymetry
   - c. hydrology
   - d. aquatics

Answers:

1. d
2. b
3. false
4. a
5. c
6. talc
7. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
8. b

Score:

A Perfect 8 – Wow! Einstein would be proud.

6-7 – Way to go! You'd fit right in with the whiz-kids from Makati Hope Christian School, UP Integrated School in Quezon City, and Albert Einstein School from Cotabato.

4-5 – You've got a pretty good grasp of how the world works even if the difficult questions stumped you.

1-3 – Science might be fun but you like other stuff. It wouldn't hurt to pay a little more attention in class, though.

Give peace a chance

SAN Pablo residents and students from different schools celebrated International Peace Day.

Spearheaded by Canossa College, San Pablo students got together to pray, give peace cheers and share their talents. Schools who participated included MSC High School, San Pablo Central School, Del Valle School, St. Claire School and Celestial Children's Montessori.

Rocsann Villegas, a sixth-grader from Canossa College, said she was most touched when the group held hands and prayed together.

"Even if we didn't know each other and have only been together today, we could become one family to fix the problems of the world," she said.

People from different parts of the country and the world also celebrated the UN International World Peace Day last Tuesday.

CANOSSA'S peace dove flew in last year's celebration and last Tuesday's as well.

SOMALI refugee women release doves as a sign of peace at the Kakuma refugee camp in northeastern Kenya, during a ceremony on International Peace Day. The camp, which is the largest in Kenya, houses refugees, who have fled internal conflicts in the east African region. AFP

TIBETAN peace activists hold placards bearing peace messages during a peace rally to mark the 2004 UN International World Peace Day in Kathmandu. Nepalese peace activists gathered to call for peace in the Himalayan kingdom which has been under the grip of a Maoist insurgency fighting for a communist republic since 1996 and the uprising has so far claimed around 10,000 lives. AFP

RESPECT AUTHORITY
Be a GOOD neighbor
Do your share to make your school and community
RESPECT AUTHORITY
HIGH school students from University of Cebu (U.C.) bearing various placards marched toward Fuente Osmeña for the assembly, as they joined and supported the International Day Of Peace.

CDN PHOTO/RUDOLPH ALCAZAREN

Junior Inquirer Special

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THE JUNIOR INQUIRER SPECIAL is published by the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER every last Saturday of the month. We accept poetry, short story, essay and art contributions for our For or By Kids section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the piece (double-spaced on letter-sized paper), along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Junior Inquirer Editor.

Letters to the editor may be sent to our e-mail address <ji@inquirer.com.ph>. Our office is at the Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, Philippines, with telephone number 897-8808 local 340. Snail mail: P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines. E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph

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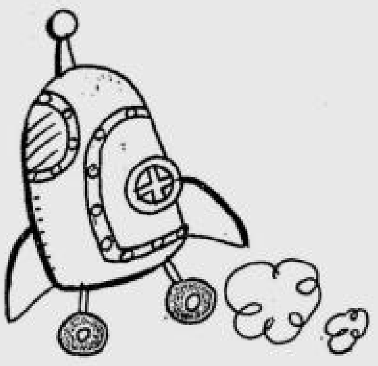
2003 Best Children's Newspaper Awardee

Imagine!



ELECTRICITY. Airplanes. Space travel.

If someone from merely a hundred years ago were to travel to our time today, all the technological things we take for granted would seem magical.

But what about teleportation? Making other planets livable? Genetically altering yourself so you can have superhuman powers?

Today's science fiction could very well be the realities of the future.

Science is so vast. There are so many fields of study to pursue: entomology, astronomy, robotics, chemistry, spectroscopy, genetics, physics, botany, zoology, biology, paleontology, zoology, electronics, etc.

But inventors not only know a lot of facts about the natural world. They have powerful imaginations as well.

If Thomas Edison had not imagined light without gas lamps, he would not have invented the light bulb.

If Alexander Graham Bell had not imagined people communicating across long distances, the telephone would not have been invented.

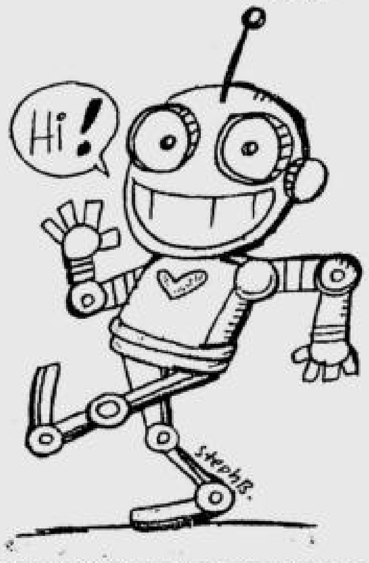
All of our modern-day conveniences started from a dream.

When she was young, JI editorial assistant Christine Paita wanted to invent a dome that automatically went up to protect the world from rain.

Colegio San Agustin sixth-grader Rafael Guerrero wants to invent solar-powered house appliances.

What would you like to invent?

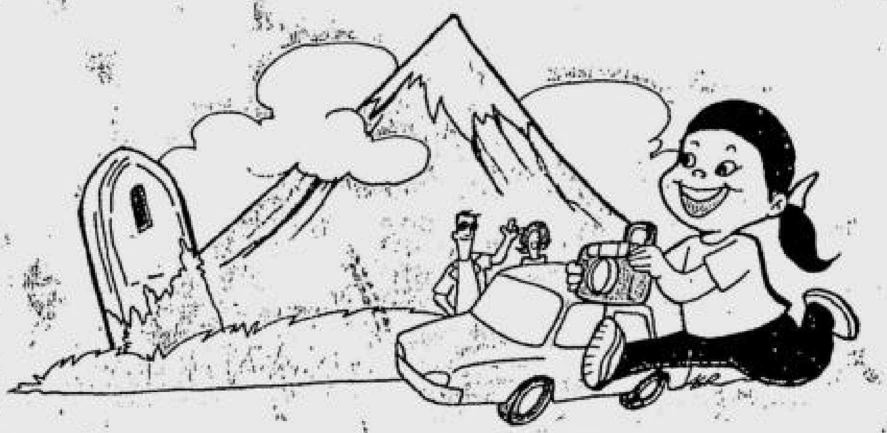
Let your imagination run without limits because someday, science is bound to catch up with you to make it real.



WE need writers

IF YOU'RE 10-12 years old and can write very good essays, news and feature stories, we would like to hear from you! Write a 200-300 word essay about your most memorable experience in school and send it to ji@inquirer.com.ph with your contact details.

JOURNAL PAGES



What I Did Last Summer Vacation

By Sarah Nicole Quinto
Cainta, Rizal

LAST summer vacation, we went to all kinds of places in the Philippines.

First, we went to Virgin Beach Resort in San Juan, Batangas.

It was a really fun stay. We slept and kept our belongings inside a cottage without doors or walls! It was covered only with curtains.

It was also hot. But in the morning, it was very cold. We saw sharks, too. Still, we swam and swam and swam.

After eating delicious *halo-halo*, we were on our way home.

Yet another adventure awaits! The week after our Batangas stay, we went to Bicol. We traveled by car. By the time we reached Bicol, we were all tired.

Good thing we stayed at the Home Economics Hostel of Ateneo de Naga University. It was air-conditioned and we were made to feel at home. It was like a house.

After two hours of rest, we toured the whole city of Naga.

The next day, Tito Popoy, my Daddy's friend, took us to Albay and we saw the perfect cone-shaped Mayon Volcano.

We also went to the Cagsawa Ruins and bought *pasalubong*.

But in the end, we had to say goodbye to Tito Popoy and his friends. We thanked them for the warm reception we received and the delicious food that we ate during our stay. Truly, as my Daddy's T-shirt says, "Cool Bicol... Warm People."

I had a very wonderful time last summer vacation, and I hope next year there will be more fun, adventure, and excitement!

A Hero's Journal

By Ernica De Guzman
St. Theresa's College
Quezon City

MY phone rang. It was from my friend.

"Are you sure you can't come?!"

I sighed and replied, "Yeah, I have a meeting in the office and I have to finish the script." I sighed once again.

Giving up weekends of gimmicks for a noble cause isn't exactly something I dreamt of doing since I was in diapers. I acutally wanted to be a superhero! I always fantasized about saving the world and ridding it of evil. I always wondered how it would be like flying through the sky and protecting the innocent using my superpowers.

Well, so much for that dream. Now I'm just stuck here in the office, writing the script for my story. I was actually supposed to be in the mall right now with my friends but I had to turn them down. As they say, duty first!

Not that I don't like what we're doing but it's just that you have to admit it sucks when you have to sacrifice some things like malling for work!

Wondering why I am writing a script? It's a long story, really, but to make it short, I got accepted in KNN or "Kabataan News Network" as a youth reporter.

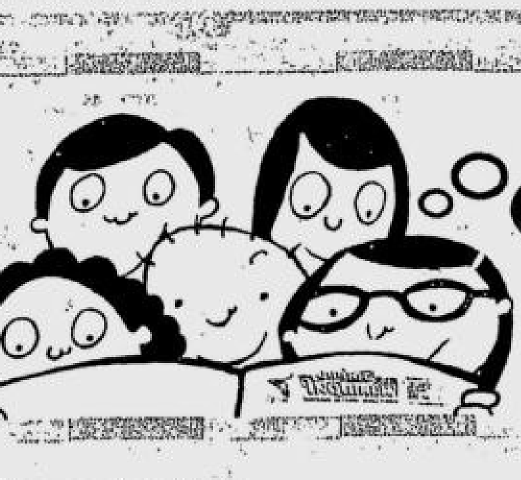
About a year ago, Probe Media Foundation called me and invited me to apply in KNN as a youth reporter. I used to be a "5 and Up" reporter and a writer for the foundation's newsletter with UNICEF. KNN is just like "5 and Up," but the kids are the ones who produce, shoot, report, and write the stories which air on national TV. Our stories are about issues concerning the youth.

After attending the TV production workshop last December, I officially became a youth reporter. For many months now, I would shoot with my other co-youth reporters of the Manila

A Hero's/ p. 8

Sound Familiar ?

Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!



Straight from JI Readers

You can reach us via e-mail! Our address is ji@inquirer.com.ph
Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and phone number.
Hope to hear from you soon!

A Favor to Ask

DEAR JI,

I'm a fashion freak and I totally love accessories! I'd like to know the telephone number or e-mail address of Bianca Olivia Romulo (the girl that you featured last Aug. 28). I am really interested in her wares, especially the magnetic beads from Bangkok. I would like to buy some if her price is right.

I religiously read all the fashion stuff in Inquirer's Lifestyle section every Friday and sometimes on Wednesdays (2BU!).

I do hope that you will grant my request. More power and thanks!—**JAPY ANTONETTE YAP**, 17, Quezon City

P.S. Call me or e-mail me her number if you've decided to give it to me because if you're going to print it, I might miss it. Thanks!

WORLD SCOPE

Beijing, China
Guizhou, China
Tokyo, Japan
Bangalore, India
Singapore, Singapore
Sydney, Australia
Melbourne, Australia

Luck-bringing Dragon

A MAN in Singapore touches a dragon's head for good luck. Chinese locals celebrate the mid-autumn festival, also known as the Lantern or Mooncake Festival, during this time of year. *AP*

Mouse Buddy

LEAH Matthews, 10, inspects Cleopatra who won the award for "Best in Show" in the mouse category at the Royal Show in Melbourne. Mice, cats, dogs, horses and cows are among the many animals judged at the show where over 500,000 people will view the more than 10,000 animals on display. *AFP*

Yummy Mooncake

A GROUP of Chinese chefs show off their creation, a giant mooncake, for the upcoming mid-autumn festival in Beijing. The giant mooncake will be the main attraction at the annual festival, which falls on Sept. 28. *AFP*

Mother and Child

A LITTLE kitten, around one month old, leans upon its dog mother at Qingyan town in southwest China's Guizhou province. The kitten's mother disappeared a few days after its birth. *AP*

Chalk Art

INDIAN student Mallikarjun Reddy C. poses with idols of the elephant-headed Hindu god Ganesh, each of them carved out of a single chalk piece in Bangalore. Mallikarjun, 23, started chalk-carving as a hobby around 10 years ago and often gives his creations to friends. *AFP*

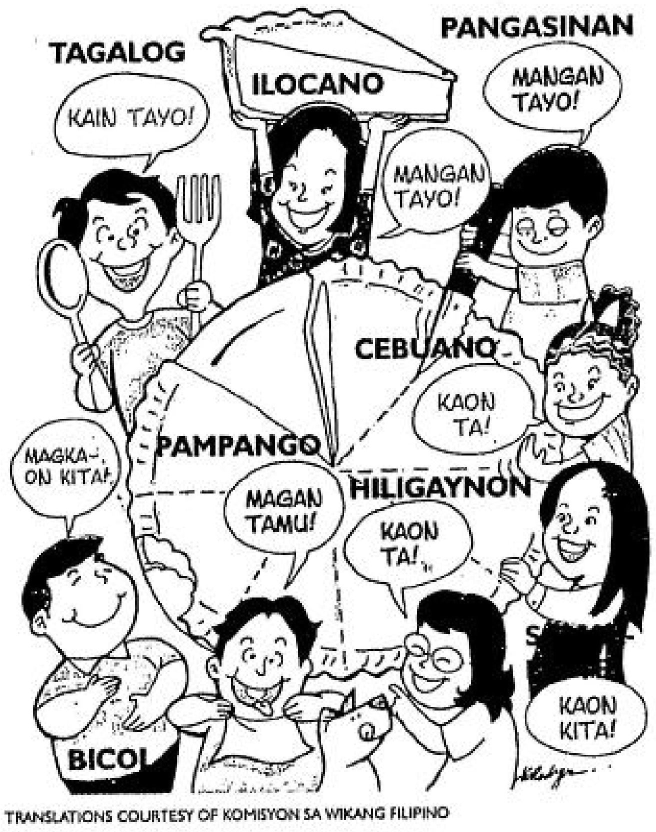
Pig Race

"PORK Chop" leads the field during a display of diving and racing pigs at the Royal Show in Melbourne. The pigs, which are about 18 weeks old, perform to capacity shows four times a day and have proved to be the crowd favorites at the Royal Show. *AFP*

Transforming Toys

JAPANESE toy maker Takara unveils its latest robot toy, "Transformer BinalTec BT-08 Mazda RX-8" in Tokyo. The robot is a 1/24 scale Mazda RX-8 die-cast model miniature car that can be changed into a robot. *AFP*

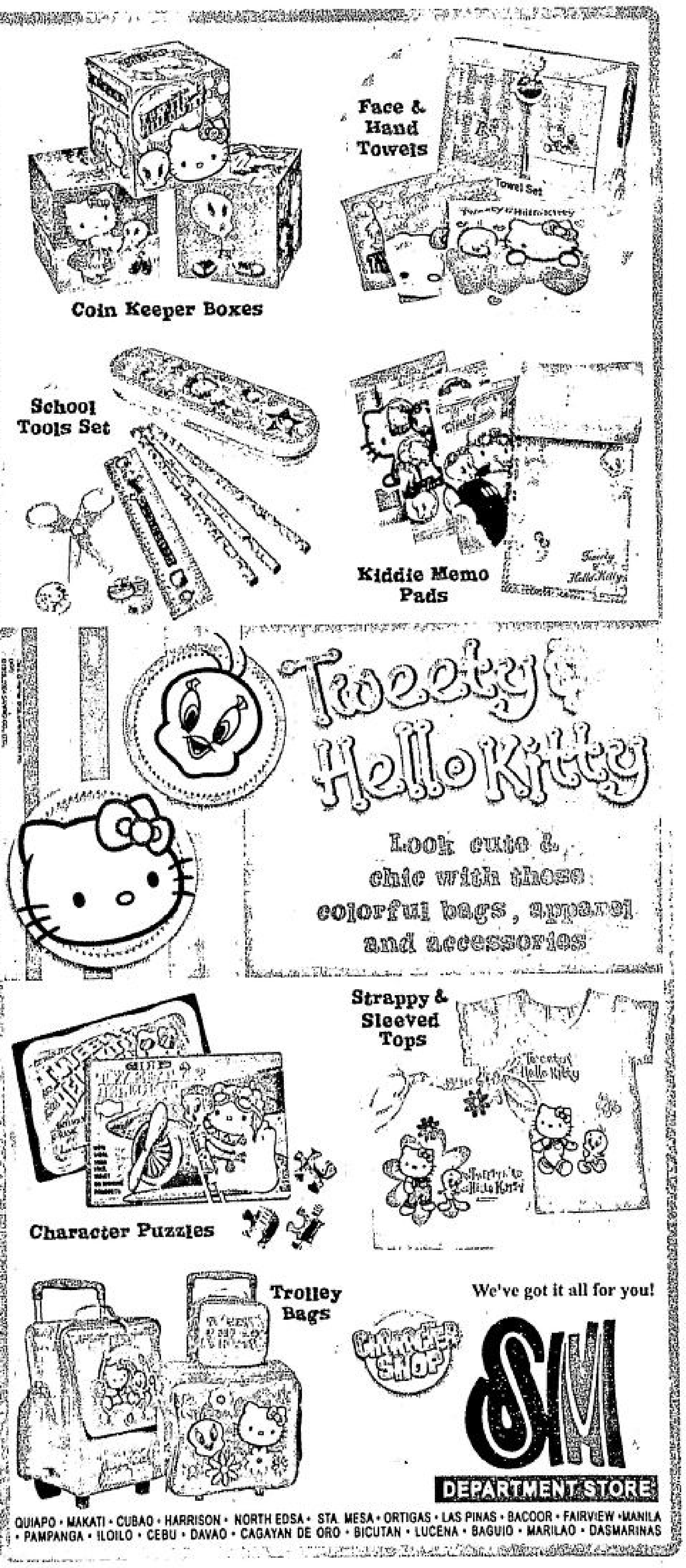
Pinoy-Speak


TAGALOG
KAIN TAYO!
ILOCANO
MANGAN TAYO!
PANGASINAN
MANGAN TAYO!
CEBUANO
KAON TA!
PAMPANGO
MAGKA-ON KITA!
MAGAN TAMU!
HILIGAYNON
KAON TA!
KAON KITA!
BICOL

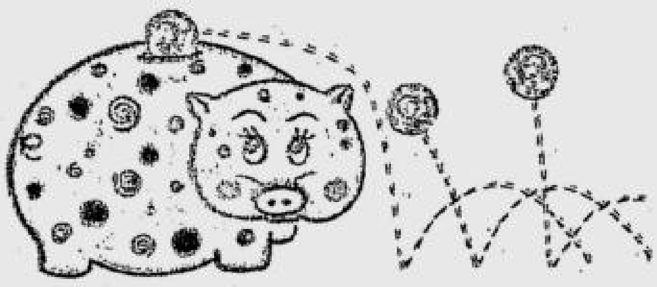
TRANSLATIONS COURTESY OF KOMISYON SA WIKANG FILIPINO

Sealing Friendship

MATTHEW Williams, 4, enjoys the company of New Zealand fur seals (*Arctocephalus forsteri*) Mav (L) and Tathra (R) who were undergoing people familiarization training at Sydney's Taronga Zoo. The seals are encouraged to stroll around the zoo to raise visitors' understanding of marine mammals and to assist the performing seals in feeling more comfortable around humans. *AFP*


Coin Keeper Boxes
Face & Hand Towels
School Tools Set
Kiddie Memo Pads
Tweety & Hello Kitty
Look cute & chic with these colorful bags, apparel and accessories
Character Puzzles
Strappy & Sleeved Tops
Trolley Bags
We've got it all for you!
Character Shop
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN • LUCENA • BAGUIO • MARILAO • DASMARINAS

Mga Tula ni Wennah B. Sadorra



Piggy

Guhit ni Rowena Tubaña

Toink, toink, toink
Isa, dalawa, tatlo
Tatlong nag-uunahang piso
'Gutom na tiyan ang sumalo

Ksh, ksh, ksh
Sa tunog ng kalansing
Tila ngumiti si tabachingching
At nagpasalamat sa akin

Buti na lang at dumating si Itay
Kaunting barya sa akin ay ibinigay
Para talaga iyon sa aking munting baboy
Na pinaglalagyan ng aking naipon

Dugdug, dugdug
Puso ko'y nasasabik talaga
Habang pisngi ni Piggy lalong pumupula
At kami ni Inay ay tumatawa

Araw-araw siya'y bumibigat
Habang napupuno ang kanyang katawan
Hindi na ako bumibili ng chips at kendi
Para lamang may makain, aking si Piggy

Krash!
Alam kong darating ang panahon
Babasagin ang mahal kong baboy
Upang mabilang ko ang perang naipon

Pero kahit na si Piggy ay mawawala
Alam kong pareho kaming masaya
Dahil sa wakas matutupad na
Ang pangarap kong bumili ng bisikleta

*Si **Rowena** ay nagtapos ng Development Communication at kasalukuyang nag-aaral ng Fine Arts. Gusto niyang makaguhit ng isang kuwentong pambata balang araw.*

Atchi

Guhit ni Jodi Lego

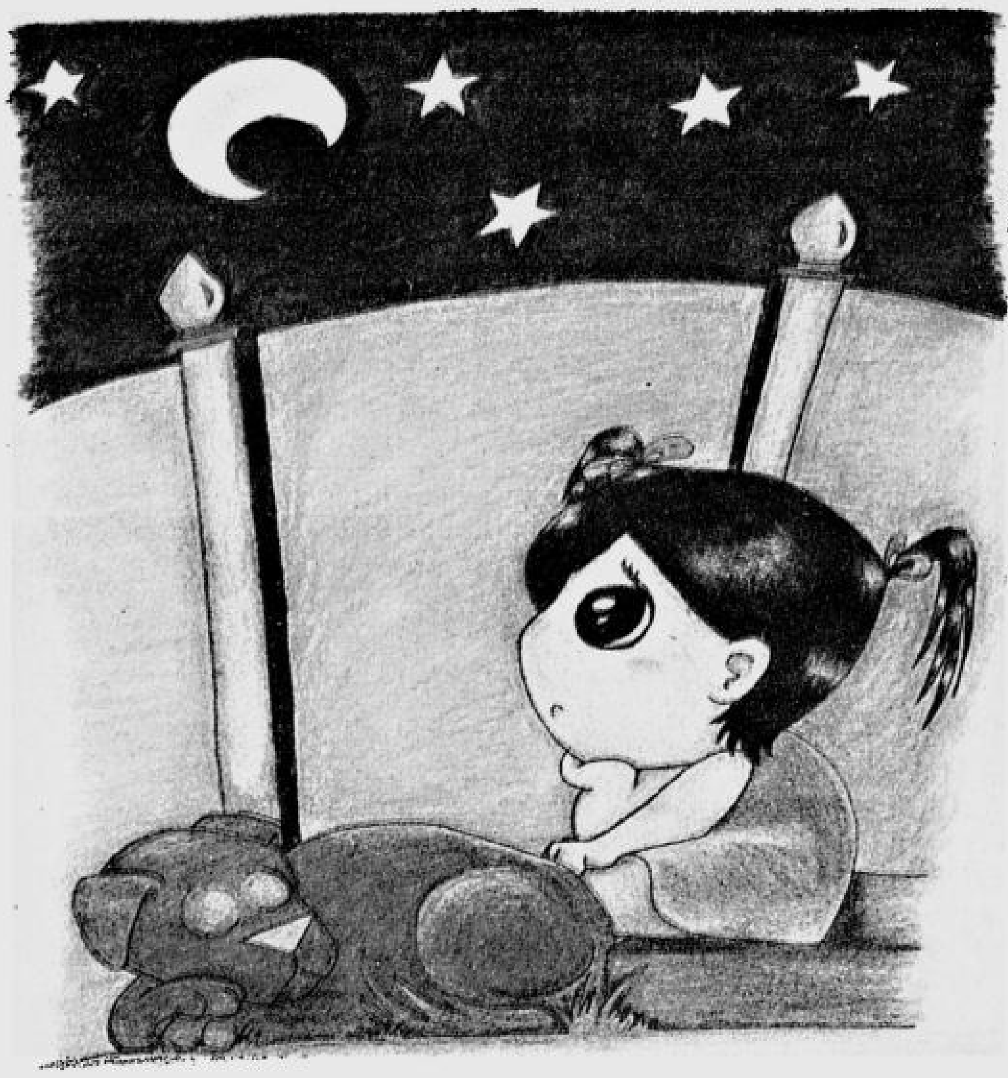
Alas-diyes na ng gabi
Hindi pa rin tulog si Bunso
Hayun, nag-aabang sa may tarangkahan
Tumitingin-tingin kung may dumarating
Sa bawat busina ng traysikel
Sa bawat kahol ng aming aso
Tumatakbong sasalubong si Bunso
Inaasam-asam na bumukas ang pinto
Kapag narinig na yabag ng mga paa
At ang sunod-sunod na mga katok

Siya'y tatalon at sisigaw,
"Si atchi, si atchi, naiyan na!"
Yayakap siya nang buong higpit
Sabay sabing "ang tagal tagal mo, atchi!"

Pupugpugin na niya ng halik
Ang ateng bihira kung umuwi
Mahinang bubulong ang niyakap:
"Pasensya na, ading,
Galing si Ate sa iskul, doon sa malayo
Miss na miss na kita, bunso."

*Si **Wennah** ay nag-aaral sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas sa Diliman. Ang kanyang inspirasyon sa pagsulat ng mga tula ay ang kanyang nakababatang kapatid, si Dave Joshua, na maliit pa lang ay marunong nang mag-ipon ng pera sa alkansiya.*

*Si **Jodi** ay nag-aaral ng Fine Arts sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas. Pangarap niyang maging isang animator sa Disney.*



Let's Travel!

Join the hosts of ABC 5's newest kiddie show as they take you on a field trip

By Eline Santos

WANT to visit a new place every week?

Jillian Ira Bagaoisan, Kristin Donato, Miguel Matugas, Edcel Tan, and Brooke Villanueva visit interesting places and try out fun stuff in the new show, "Field Trip."

"We travel around the country and at the same time, we learn," says Jillian , a fifth-grader from Sacred Heart Academy, Pasig.

Their first episode, which features a visit to Japs Shoe Factory in Marikina and Elsie Gaches Village in Alabang, will air on Oct. 2 at 2 p.m.

"It's fun," says Jillian.

"It's hard," rejoins Miguel, a fifth-grader from La Salle Greenhills, Mandaluyong. "Sometimes you forget what you want to say."

When the group went to Pook ni Mariang Makiling, Miguel was absent.

In their next shoot, he had to say a line: "*Oo nga, sayang* I wasn't there." Miguel forgot it and instead said, "Sor*ry ka, wala ako dun eh.*"

The kids laugh remembering their different bloopers.

Sometimes it's the stage fright and nervousness that brings on the mistakes.

Edcel, a fifth-grader from Holy World Academy in Pasig, doesn't really like being in front of the camera yet. His maximum number of takes was eight.

TAKE a ride with Kristin, Miguel, Jillian, Edcel, and Brooke.

RYAN LIM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

"I'm still not used to it," Edcel says. "I just pretend that the camera isn't there."

When Kristin, a fifth-grader from St. Paul College, is feeling self-conscious, she imagines that the people watching the shoot are just statues.

Jillian, on the other hand, enjoys the limelight. The 11-year-old says it's important to be confident so they can ask any of the questions that come to them during an interview.

Doing well in their studies is also very important.

"I was second honor last year," Jillian proudly says.

For Kristin, the rule is to finish all her homework Friday night.

Saturday is the time they go on their weekly field trip.

Kristin's favorite trip so far is their Pook ni Mariang Makiling visit. They learned some of the scientific names of trees as they went on a nature hike.

Brooke enjoyed their visit to Market! Market! in Fort Bonifacio, saying she experienced what it was like to be a bit independent.

On Sundays, they sometimes have to shoot spiels to introduce and end their segments.

The kids are looking forward to their trip to Batangas because they will learn how to jet ski and scuba dive.

"Please watch because it's very educational," says Miguel. "We guarantee you will learn a lot."

THE gang promises fun times on the road.

RYAN LIM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Hands-On S

Experiments are mor

MEMBERS of the S
Agustin, Makati were le
ER dropped by for a visit
"Osmosis is the passa
concentration through
of low water concentrat
Huh?
You need an average
get an invite to this club
To do their most rece
few items from around t
Osmosis in this exper
through the membrane
Check it out!

4.) FILL your jar with w

5.) PLACE your egg in so that 1/4 of the egg merged in water. Make er small hole on to

SCIENCE is definitely a
among CSA's science clu
bers.
"It's very interesting
sixth-grader Henry
"There are new things to
The kids are very imag
as well.

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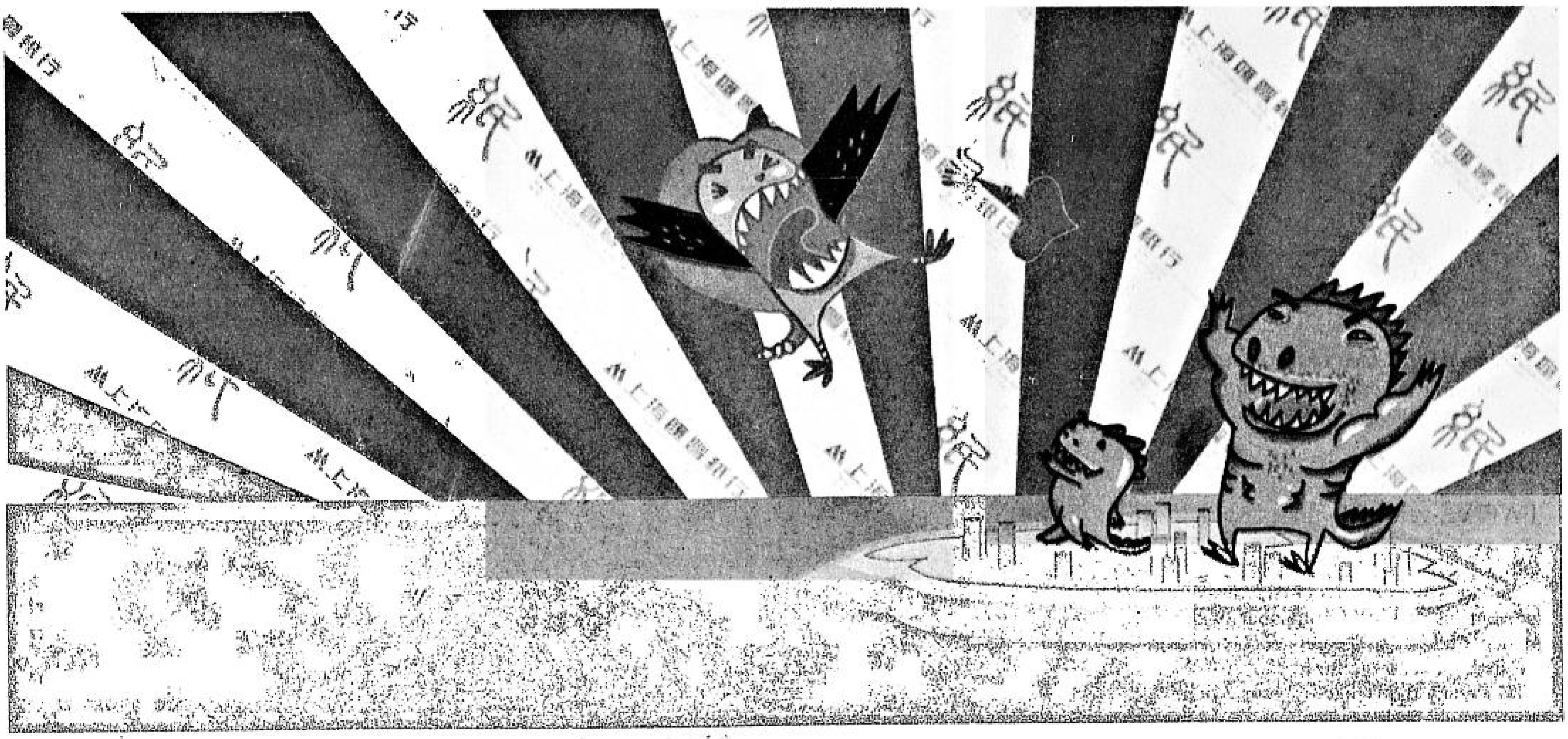


Godzilla vs. Huggabeastie

A short short story by Alfonso J. Divinagracia
Illustrations by Bernie Sim

A GROUP of men find tracks at dawn. They see shadows. It's a group of monsters led by Godzilla.

Godzilla is soon separated from the herd. The men start making a new monster by dropping one atom bomb in Tokyo. And they called the monster Huggabeastie.

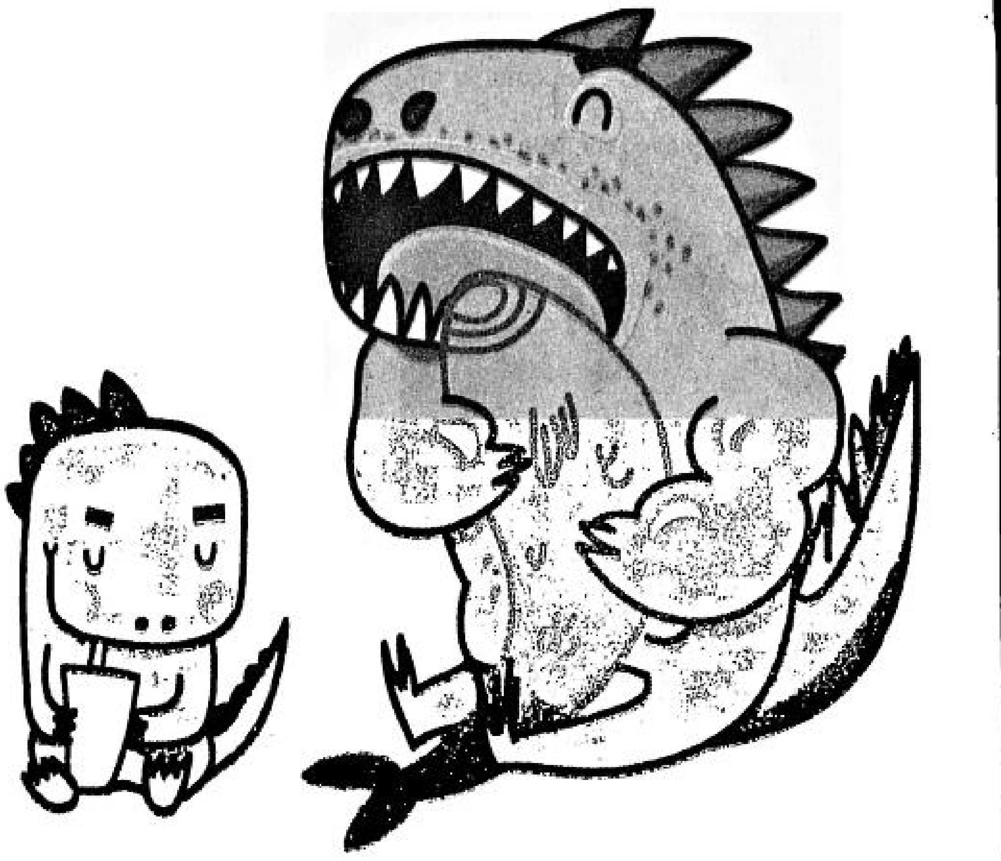
Godzilla soon arrives in Tokyo and battles Huggabeastie. And not only Godzilla but one of his babies!

Huggabeastie soon wins by tickling Godzilla. Godzilla finally goes home.

Luckily, the baby was left to fight Huggabeastie! He throws a grown kraken which is smaller than him at Huggabeastie's head. And Huggabeastie falls into the sea.

Godzilla comes to Tokyo and says "Hurray, son, hurray!" They go home and have a giant glass of lemonade and a giant plate of salmon.

After the war Huggabeastie split apart and became Beastie and Huggabear.. Hooray!!!!!!!!!!



Alfonso, 6, is an avid reader and is passionate about dinosaurs, reptiles and Godzilla. He is in 2nd Grade at PAREF-Westbridge School for Boys in Iloilo City. Huggabear and Beastie are his favorite stuffed toys.

***Bernie** is currently a writer and illustrator for MTV INK magazine. She's queasy around frogs, but other reptiles can e-mail her fine at berniebruha@hotmail.com*

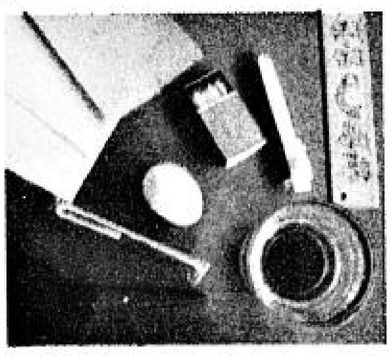
ence

fun than lectures any day of the week

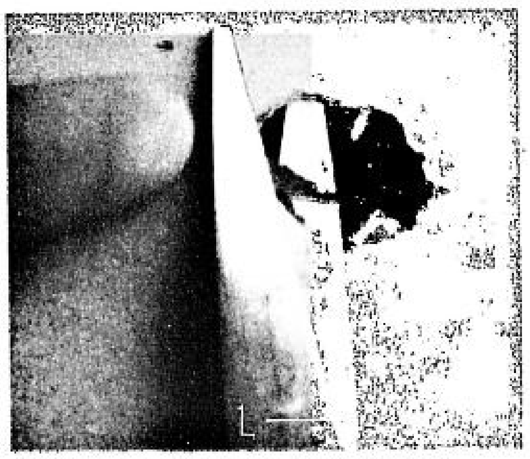
ience for the Gifted club in Colegio San
rning about osmosis when JUNIOR INQUIR-

ge of water from a region of high water
semi-permeable membrane to a region
on."

f 95 and above in your science grade to
of science whiz kids.
nt experiment however, you just need a
he house.
iment is demonstrated by water passing
f the egg and up a straw.

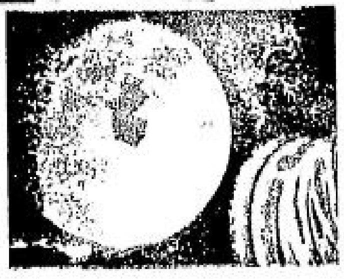


1.) YOU will need an egg, a small jar of water, a straw, a piece of cardboard, matches, a candle, a ruler, and scissors.



2.) IF the mouth of your jar is small enough to hold an egg in place skip this step. Otherwise, cut a hole into a piece of cardboard. The hole must be big enough to hold an egg in place.

3.) VERY, very carefully make a small hole at the bottom of your egg without breaking the egg's membrane. Joss takes extra care because it's very delicate.



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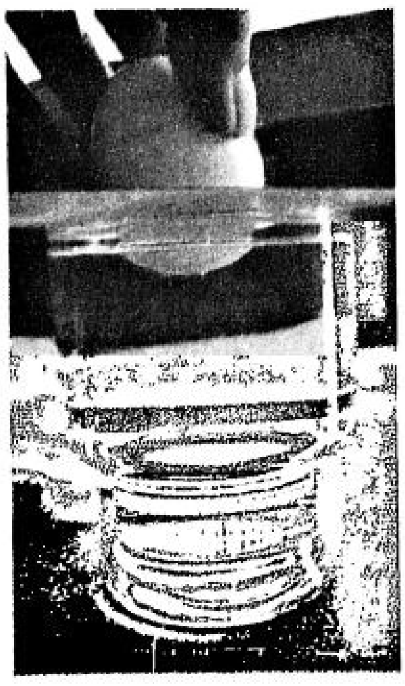


the jar
is sub-
anoth-
of the
egg.

6.) INSERT one inch of the straw through the hole.

avorite
mem-

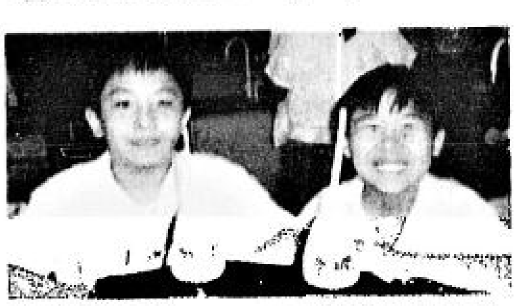
" says
Medina.
learn."
inative

If he could invent anything in the world, Henry says he would build a duplicating machine so that using the same tree, he can get twice the amount of paper.

Anna Gonzalez, one of two girls in the entire club, would like to build a time machine so she can go back in time and meet her grandparents.

"I would build robot doctors and nurses who would perform surgeries faster with less mistakes," says sixth-grader MC de Mesa who wants to be a doctor someday.

7.) LIGHT the candle and drip wax on the egg hole to seal it. Henry helps Anna out.



8.) IF you did your experiment correctly, liquid should have passed from the jar to the egg and up through your straw. Joss and Henry did this experiment successfully. Well done!

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Arion Acts

It was not his idea to be on stage but now Arion is a bona fide theater buff

By Eline Santos

Kids'r'rrific

TWELVE-year-old Arion Sanchez only gave theater a try for his father's sake.

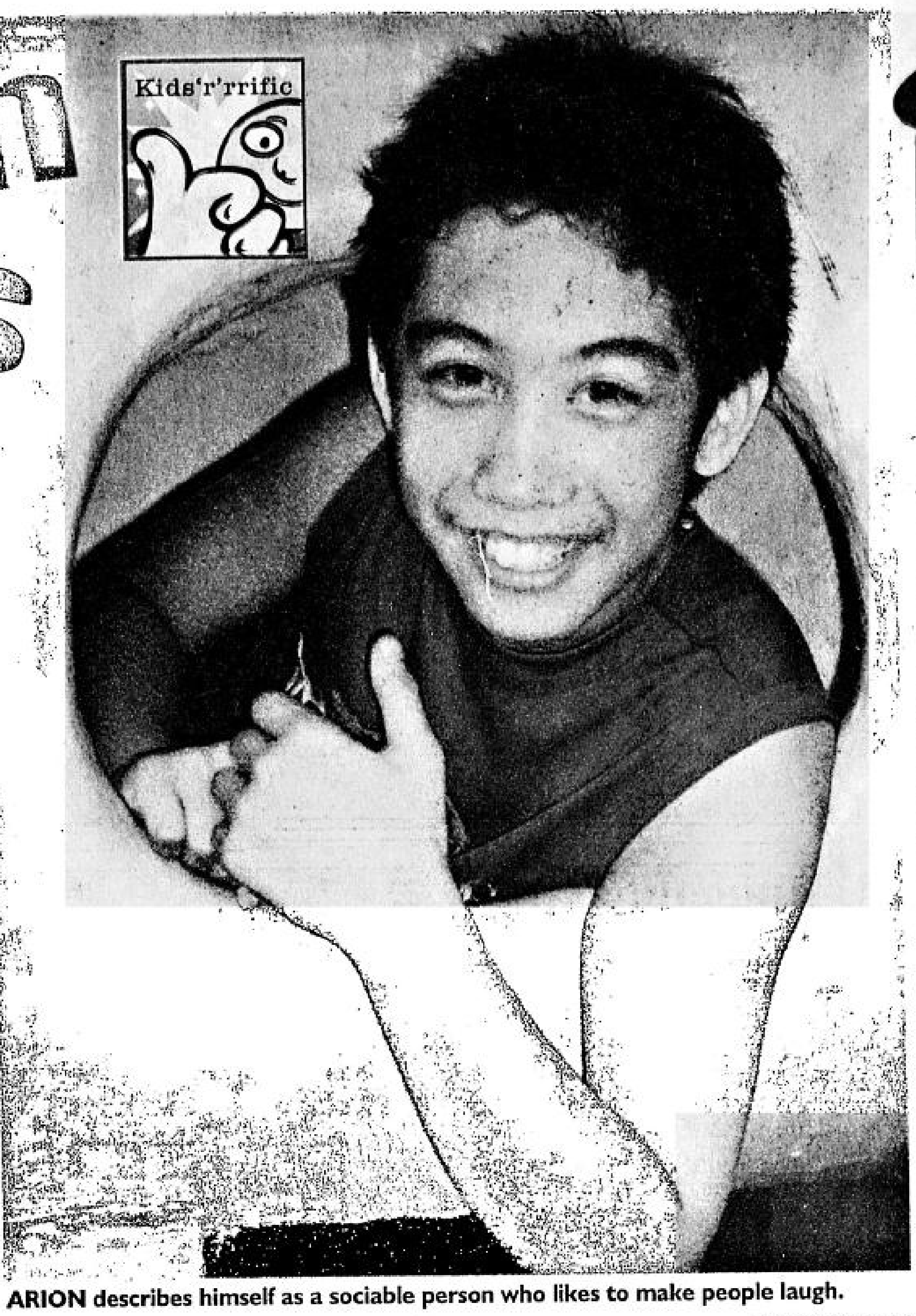
"I didn't want to do it at first," says Arion. But his dad, also a member of the Ateneo Children's Theater, encouraged the sixth-grader to go for it.

"If I really didn't like it," says Arion, "then I could back out."

The way things have worked out however, the 12-year-old is now playing the role of Lun Tha in ACT's upcoming production of the "The King and I."

Last year, he played the role of Billy in the musical "Big."

ARION and Elistel Ong, a fifth-grader from St. Bridget School, Quezon City play the role of forbidden lovers, Lun Tha and Tuptim.



ARION describes himself as a sociable person who likes to make people laugh.

PHOTOS BY ELINE SANTOS

"It's fun," says Arion. "Especially when you do the run-through and the scenes, lights, sounds, and stage all come together."

A romantic at heart, Arion says his favorite characters are the ones who do love scenes.

Being in an all-boys school, the young thespian admits one of the things he likes about ACT is the chance to meet friends of the opposite sex.

Right now, his real love however is singing. His favorite song in the musical is "I Have Dreamed," which Arion describes as a Romeo-and-Juliet type of scene.

Aside from theater, Arion is also four months into "*tetada kalimasada*," a form of martial arts which focuses on developing inner energy.

If there's anything Arion has learned, it's not to shut doors to new experiences.

"Try it out first and see how things work out."

R RRIFIC!

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're 'Rrific' or know someone who is, fill out the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC' Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces
corner Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a free Junior Inquirer T-shirt!

Kids'r'rrific

nomination form

I nominate: ____________________

Age: ____________________

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because: (Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

____

She/he lives at ____________________

and studies at ____________________

Her/his contact number is: ____________________

Sender's Name: ____________________

Sender's Age & School: ____________________

Sender's Address: ____________________

Sender's Contact No. ____________________

Moonwalking Samuel

By Christine A. Paita

ELEVEN-year-old Samuel Jan Navarrete may strike some people as shy and quiet. But this sixth-grader from Ligao West Central Elementary School in Ligao City, Albay is no wallflower when it comes to showing what he can do on stage—that is, dancing like Michael Jackson.

"I was in Grade 2 when I learned to do the 'moonwalk.' I've seen it in Michael Jackson's music video, then I started practicing it by myself," Samuel shares.

Samuel said the hardest part about learning the steps was coordinating the movement of the feet. In the moonwalk, the dancer slides his feet on the floor backwards or on the same spot, so that it appears like he is "walking on the moon."

'Pinakamatibay'

Samuel did his family and school proud when he won first place in the "Patiribayan sa Ligao" (Pagalingan sa Ligao) dance contest in 2002, where he performed a remix of Michael Jackson's songs and wowed the audience with his dance moves.

"My tita dared me to join the auditions. She said if I went to the auditions, even if I didn't make it, she'd give me a bike."

ERN LUZON BUREA

WHEN he's not dancing, Samuel helps out at his father's machine shop.

Samuel auditioned on his 10th birthday and got his birthday wish—a new bike. After winning, the soft-spoken Bicolano has been invited to repeat his performance in school programs and during local festivities, such as the Magayon Festival 2003 in Albay.

Samuel's dancing ability does not end in merely doing the steps. He also choreographs his dance numbers.

"My teacher asked me to perform during our Buwan ng Wika celebration. In one night, I was able to create a dance number and memorize the steps," says Samuel.

NIÑO JESUS ORBETA

SAMUEL does an 'MJ' turn.

Samuel also dabbles in strumming the guitar and playing the organ. He's trying to learn how to play through self-study, just like he did with dancing. Samuel's advice to kids who want to achieve a dance feat of their own is to, "Keep on practicing. Practice with the music to perfect the moves."

Speaker, Singer, Story-Maker

Words in song, speech, or the school paper is what this Bacolod lass is master of

By Eline Santos

LEANNE enjoys the company of tarsiers in a Bohol field trip.

CAN you win a storytelling contest without preparation or answer tough questions in a debate?

Whether it's to write or speak extemporaneously, 14-year-old Leanne Marie Torrato communicates well.

Two years ago, the sophomore from the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos in Bacolod won an impromptu storytelling contest in the 23rd Annual National Grade School Convention in Baguio. She didn't expect to win because she was not prepared for it but her gift for speaking saw her through.

"My friends say I'm good at reasoning out," says Leanne. "I can respond to all their questions. My personality is well-suited to it. When there are debates in school, I win."

While she considers singing her strongest talent, Leanne is thinking of using her speaking and writing talent as a lawyer someday.

Leanne has grown confident, on and off the stage, because she is a regular contestant, performer, and emcee in school programs. She has victories from contests in singing, declamation, and feature writing under her belt.

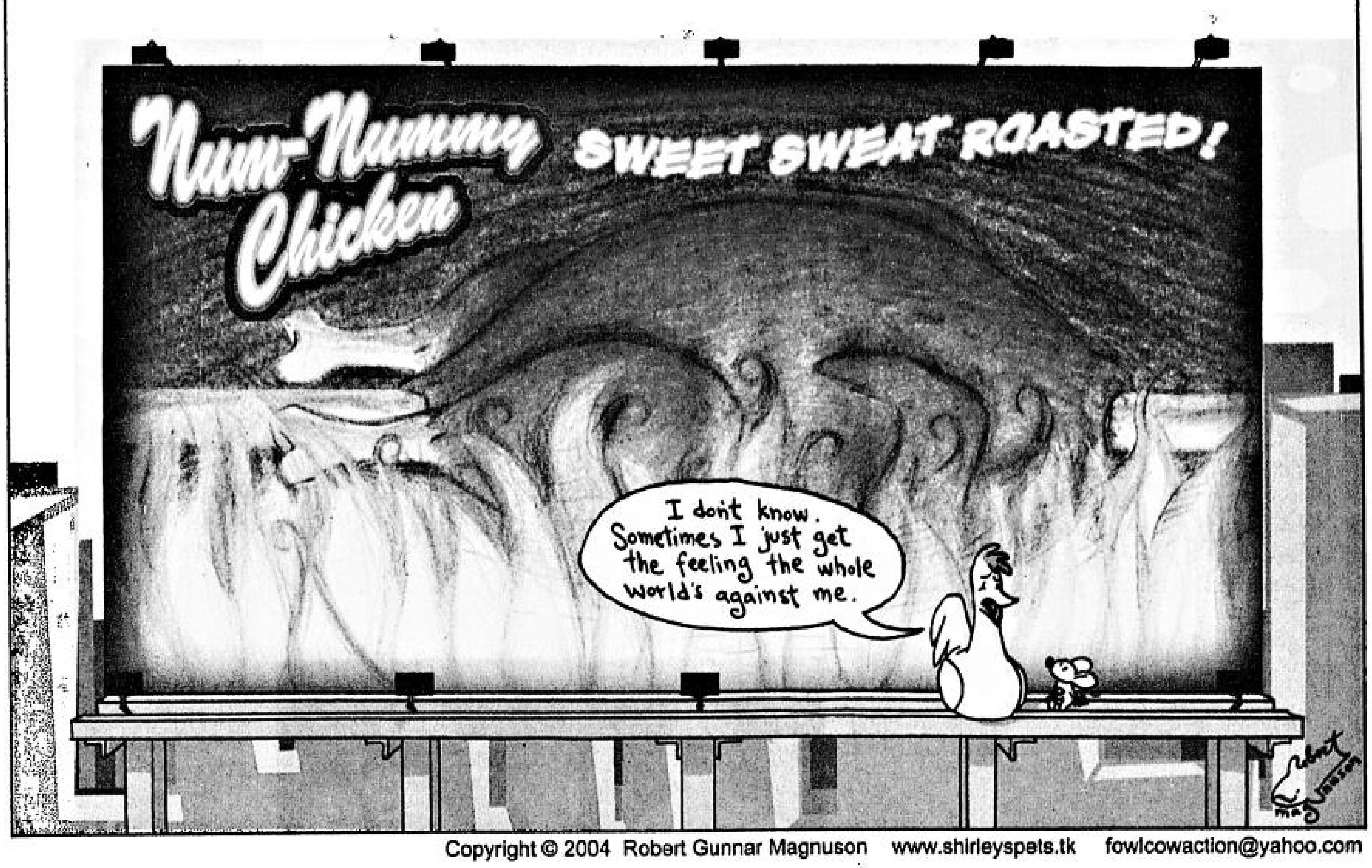
She doesn't win every time but her winning attitude always remains.

"When I lose in some of the contests, I accept it because that's part of it," she says. "You should always remain down to earth. You can't win them all."

While she's easing up on the extra-curricular activities to focus on her academics, Leanne remains open to possibilities.

"Grab every opportunity that comes your way," she says. "I join in contests even if there's a risk of losing. That's part of the challenge of life."

SHIRLEY'S PETS by robert magnuson


Num-Nummy Chicken
SWEET SWEAT ROASTED!
I don't know. Sometimes I just get the feeling the whole world's against me.
Robert Magnuson

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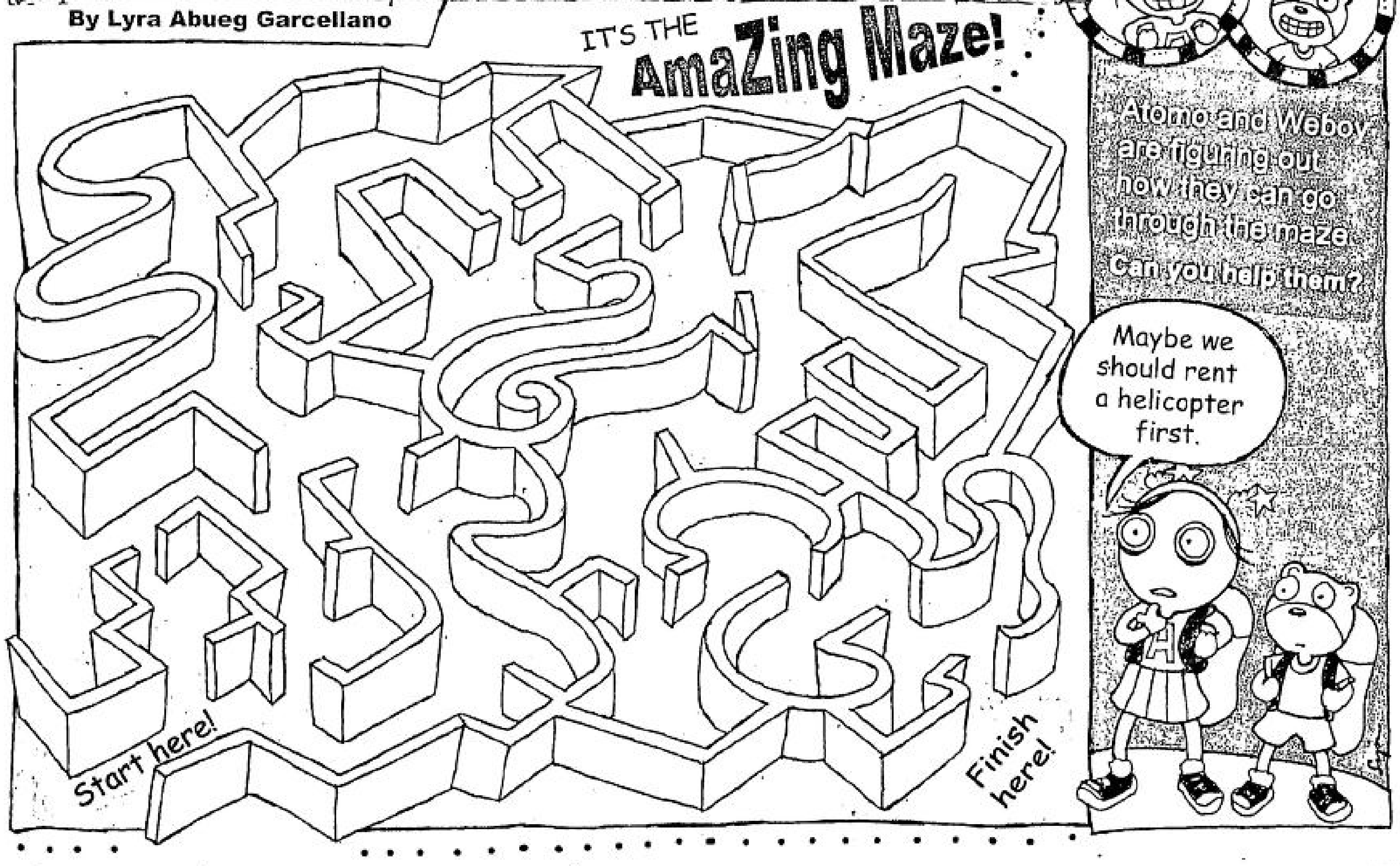
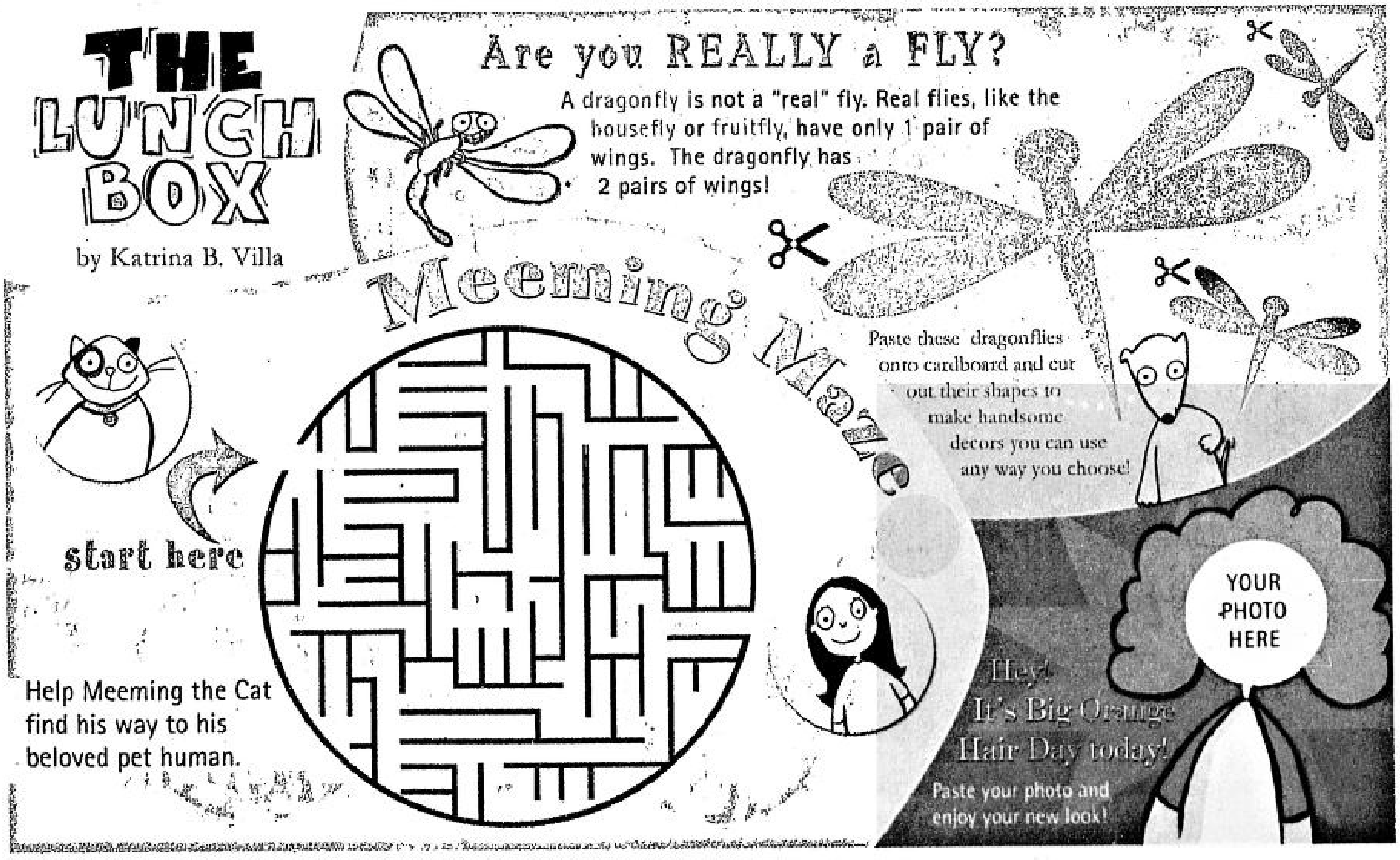
Atomo & Weboy BUDDHA BEAR

By Lyra Abueg Garcellano


IT'S THE AmaZing Maze!
Atomo and Weboy are figuring out how they can go through the maze. Can you help them?
Maybe we should rent a helicopter first.
Start here!
Finish here!

THE LUNCH BOX

by Katrina B. Villa


Meeming Maze
start here
YOUR PHOTO HERE

Are you REALLY a FLY?

A dragonfly is not a "real" fly. Real flies, like the housefly or fruitfly, have only 1 pair of wings. The dragonfly has 2 pairs of wings!

Paste these dragonflies onto cardboard and cut out their shapes to make handsome decors you can use any way you choose!

Help Meeming the Cat find his way to his beloved pet human.

Hey! It's Big Orange Hair Day today! Paste your photo and enjoy your new look!

OUT THERE

By Christine A. Paita

Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax number is 897-4794, and our e-mail address is ji@inquirer.com.ph.

Workshops

BASIC PAINTING. Angono artist Michael Blanco will hold a basic painting workshop **for Girl Scouts** on Sept. 25 at 9 a.m. There will also be a cooking demo at the Concepcion R. Gonzalez National Program and Training Center in Novaliches on the same day. For inquiries, call GSP at 523-8331 to 42.

CSIW TIME! Raring to go on an **earth science expedition?** All elementary pupils are invited to join the 2004 Children's Science Interactive Workshop on Oct. 19-23 at Malagos Garden Resort in Davao City. This year's theme is "GeoExpedition: Experience Earth to the Extreme!" Contact the Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs at 920-8174 or 920-9561 or e-mail psysc_inc@hotmail.com. PSYSC is located at 7B Esteban Abada St. Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Contests

CALL FOR PBBY-SALANGA ENTRIES. The Philippine Board on Books for Young People (PBBY) is still accepting entries for the 2005 PBBY-Salanga Prize. **Stories** must be intended **for kids** ages 6-12 and may be in Filipino or English. Entries must be unpublished and must not have won in any previous contests. A contestant may send in more than one entry. All entries must be sent to the PBBY Secretariat, c/o Adarna House, Inc., Room 102, JGS Building, 30 Scout Tuazon St., Quezon City not later than 5 p.m. on Oct. 1. Interested parties may contact the PBBY at telefax number 372-3548 or email pbby@adarna.com.ph.

BEST NATURE STORIES. The search is on for the country's best young environmentalist writers. Rizal Banking Commercial Corp. (RCBC) invites students to join its 11th **Kuwentong Kalikasan** Katha ng Kabataan short story writing contest. This year's theme is "Saving the endangered species of the Philippines." The grand prize winner will bring home a cash prize of P30,000 and a trophy. All entries should be submitted on or before Nov. 8 to the nearest RCBC Business Center. For inquiries, call Ms Bebeth Sison at 885-7811 local 802.

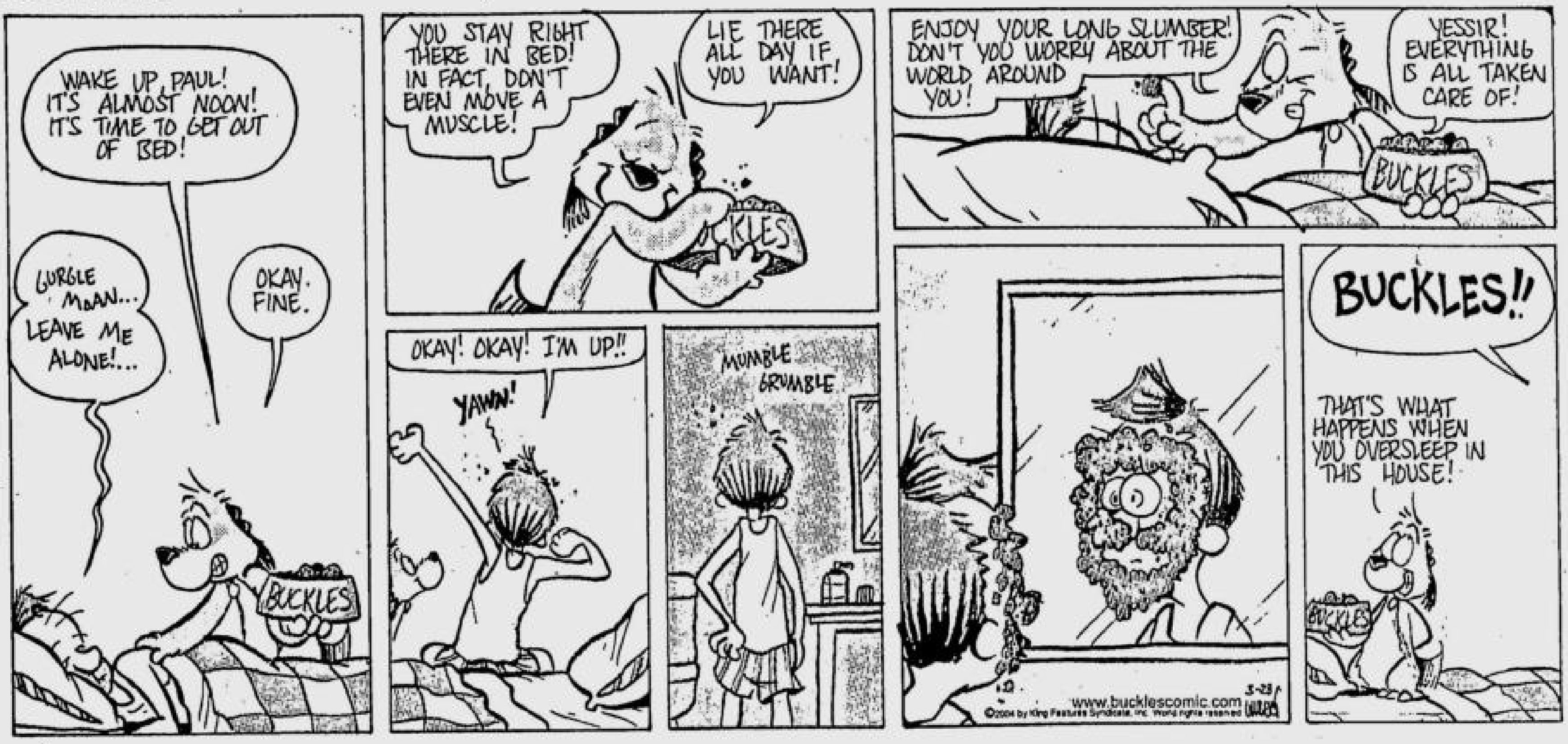
Share a Book

DONATE A BOOK. Got any storybooks to share? The League of Corporate Foundations has launched "Sa Pagbasa, May Pag-Asa," a **storybook drive** aimed to promote

Out/ p. 8

BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


WAKE UP, PAUL! IT'S ALMOST NOON! IT'S TIME TO GET OUT OF BED!
GURGLE MOAN... LEAVE ME ALONE!...
OKAY. FINE.
BUCKLES
YOU STAY RIGHT THERE IN BED! IN FACT, DON'T EVEN MOVE A MUSCLE!
LIE THERE ALL DAY IF YOU WANT!
ENJOY YOUR LONG SLUMBER! DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND YOU!
YESSIR! EVERYTHING IS ALL TAKEN CARE OF!
OKAY! OKAY! I'M UP!!
YAWN!
MUMBLE GRUMBLE
BUCKLES!!
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU OVERSLEEP IN THIS HOUSE!
www.bucklescomic.com
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5-23

Makati students...

(from page 1)

reward.

"It was my first time in Manila and my first time to ride an airplane," said Namssor. "That was really my dream. That's why I worked hard to make my grades high."

More science, please

Another team from Makati Hope, composed of Harvey Nicol Chua, Aileen Ko, and Nicole Angeline Uy, was the overall champion in the Math-Sci-A-Ka interactive workshops held last Sept. 11.

Makati Hope won first place in the "Chain Questors," second place in "String Stranglers," and third place in "Oceanography" workshops, making them champions overall.

As a special treat, participants of the Math-Sci-A-Ka workshops got to talk to half-Filipina NASA engineer, Maria Bualat, via video conference.

Students from PAREF Woodrose School (Muntinlupa), Las Piñas East National High School, Batangas National High School, and the University of Perpetual Help Rizal (Las Piñas) participated in the activity.

SENANDO, Felipe and Giselle learn to be more careful in their spelling.

ELINE SANTOS

A Hero's Journal

(from page 2)

bureau. We would be seen shooting and interviewing along Philcoa and different parts of Manila. Other than shooting and interviewing, I would bond with the other kids in the office.

I feel both privileged and satisfied to be part of this patriotic project. Honestly, I feel that I am doing something important. Something that makes my existence more meaningful... come to think of it, our work is pretty heroic!

We don't fly through the sky and certainly we don't have superpowers but hey, we use our abilities to be the voice of the youth. We are showing the world that children and youth exist.

We are also proving to everyone that we certainly aren't incapable of doing valuable and sensible things. So I guess that's quite heroic. Maybe I'm a hero after all and I don't even need superpowers to be one. KNN helps me be one in my own way!

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Before 41,950

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Out There

(from page 7)

reading among public school children. Companies and private schools interested to support the project may get in touch with Ms Gidget Aranda at 897-8808 local 260.

Events

FURRY TALES. In celebration of Animal Welfare Week in October, Powerbooks Specialty Store and The Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) present Furry Tales, a fundraiser for the benefit of the less fortunate animals, on Oct. 9 at the Atrium of SM Megamall Bldg. A. There will be storytelling, games, an art contest, face painting, caricatures, and a Pet Fashion Show featuring celebrities with their pets. For details, please call 757-6428 or 29.

Cable Picks

CARTOON NETWORK

IMAGINARY FRIENDS. Meet Mac and his imaginary friend, Bloo. Shy, 8-year-old Mac is forced to **give Bloo up** when his mother tells him he is too old to have an imaginary friend. But then Mac and Bloo discover a fanciful world called Madam Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends! Catch this animated series on Sept. 25, 8 p.m., on Cartoon Network.

SUPER TEENS. Catch all-new episodes of "Teen Titans" starting Sept. 27 at 6: 30 p.m. on Cartoon Network. Teen Titans is a team of **young superheroes** who join together to fight crime and learn to get along living in their giant "T" headquarters.

"GEORGE of the Jungle"

DISNEY TREATS. October rules out boredom for kids when they tune in to Disney Channel. The excitement begins with "Max Keeble's Big Move" on Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. Max is a 12-year-old **"dorky nerd"** who's being bullied by the big boys. How does he deal with them? Tune in to find out! Then, go bananas with "George of the Jungle" on Oct. 1 at 10:30 p.m. as he swings from one adventure to the next!

Stuff

SASSY DOLLS. Avail of the latest collection of the We Teens dolls. These dolls come in handy with interchangeable apparels and **trendy accessories**. The We Teens dolls are available at all National Bookstores nationwide